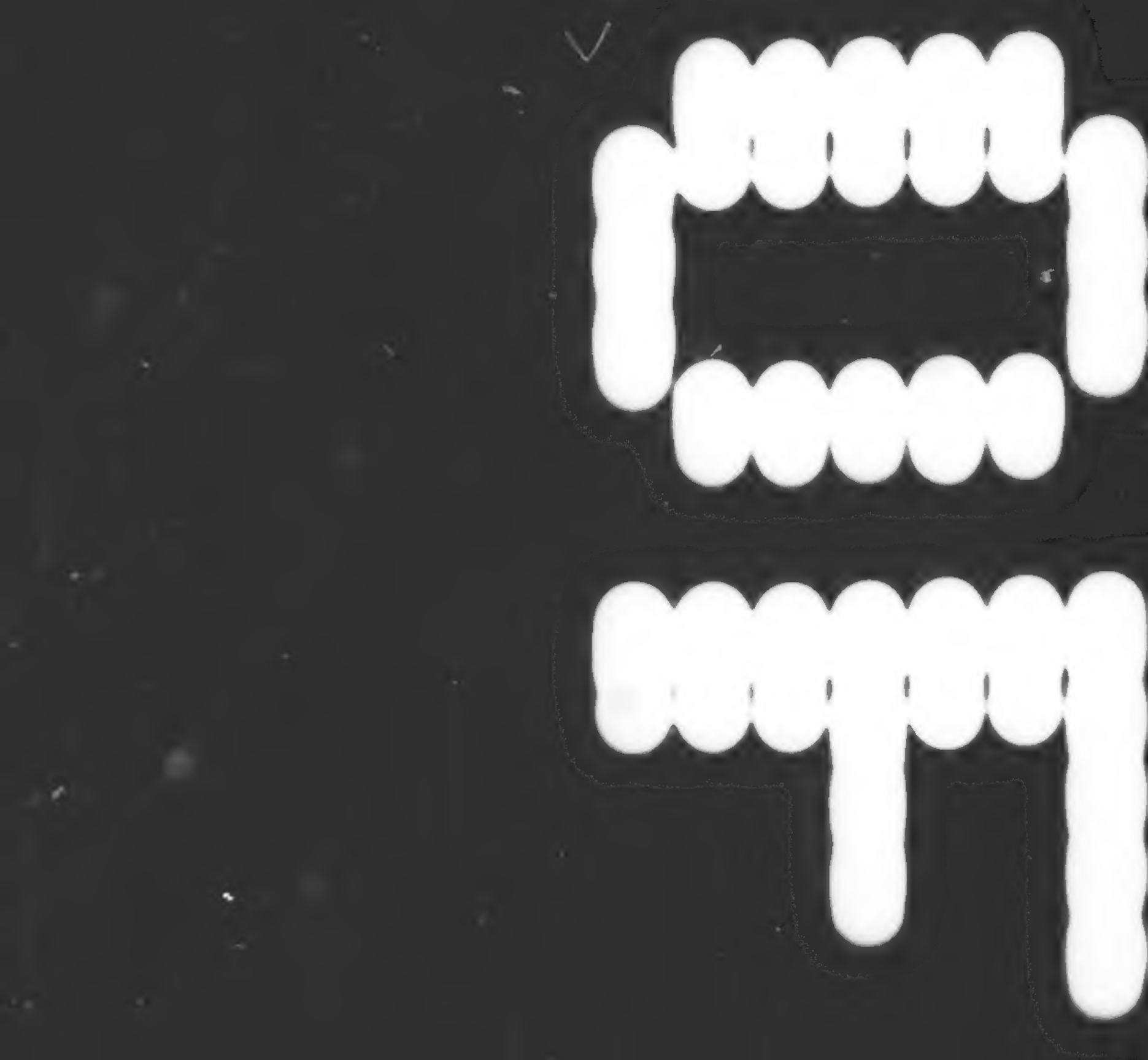

Daily Report

East Europe

FBIS-EEU-88-024
Friday
5 February 1988

Daily Report
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FBIS-EEU-88-024 *5 February 1988*

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U.S. Inspectors Arrive To Monitor Maneuver

LD051024 Budapest in Hungarian to Australia and New Zealand 1000 GMT 5 Feb 88

[Text] A four-member U.S. delegation has arrived in Hungary for an on-site inspection of the 'Friendship-88' military exercise which is underway in Transdanubia, north of the Balaton. Thirteen thousand soldiers from the Hungarian, Soviet and Czechoslovak armies are participating in the series of maneuvers, which will end tomorrow. In accordance with the Stockholm measures to strengthen trust and security, the Hungarian side has asked experts from countries participating in the Helsinki process, among them the United States, too, to inspect the military exercise.

USSR's Gribkov Departs After Inspection

LD031833 Budapest MTI in English 1736 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Budapest, February 3 (MTI)—Army General Anatoliy Gribkov, chief of staff of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Treaty member states, left Budapest on Wednesday. During his stay in Hungary Anatoliy Gribkov inspected the 'Friendship-88' Exercise.

Varkonyi Addresses Geneva Disarmament Conference

LD041707 Budapest MTI in English 1320 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Geneva, February 4 (MTI)—Peter Varkonyi, Hungarian foreign minister, contributed to the plenary session of the Geneva disarmament conference on Thursday.

The Hungarian foreign minister termed it as encouraging that this year the conference began its work under more favourable international conditions than previously. "It is not groundless" to look forward to the disarmament conference with new expectations and renewed hope." Peter Varkonyi emphasized that "the interdependence of the various countries and geographical regions, a reality of our age, is recognized to an increasing extent in international relations. Peaceful co-existence and cooperation can be the only reasonable form of existence for the countries of the world. It is obvious today that the global challenges know no boundaries."

Peter Varkonyi emphasized that no country could guarantee its security with exclusively military means today. Security can only be guaranteed in cooperation, with strong political will, through negotiations. "We have seen these realities be reflected in the latest Soviet-American summit," he said and termed it as a result of the summit that "the Soviet-American bilateral talks on nuclear disarmanent have become continuous" since the missile agreement had been signed. ' It is particularly important that the dynamism of talks does not abate."

It is indispensable that "the talks on the elimination of chemical weapons should be concluded successfully as soon as possible," Peter Varkonyi said and called for "lasting and irreversible changes in the field of disarmament in Europe".

Peter Varkonyi insisted on taking a common stand against the extremist endeavours for "compensatory measures" that would reduce or even eliminate the favourable effects of the agreement on the abolition of intermediate and shorter-range nuclear arms systems.

Peter Varkonyi recalled that the preparations of talks on the disarmament of European conventional weapons were taking place in the Vienna meeting, on the basis of the Budapest appeal made by the Warsaw treaty member states in June 1986 and the reply NATO had given to it. "Beside the members of the two military- political alliances, all European countries are particularly interested in the soonest possible, major reduction of conventional armaments and armed forces in Europe.

"Considering the quantity and quality of the conventional armed forces and armament concentrated in Europe, the effects of their cut and the gradual reduction of conventional warfare capabilities to the level required for defence would by far exceed the geographical boundaries of the continent and herald a new era in worldwide security policy."

Peter Varkonyi emphasized that Hungary "strives to contribute in all fields to the strengthening of a more relaxed international atmosphere and the conclusion of agreements guaranteeing security.

"In the framework of the United Nations we are taking an active part in the formulation of a comprehensive concept of international security. We have made proposals to pave the way for an agreement in the Vienna Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Similarly, we seek to promote the elaboration of the mandate of talks on the reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe."

Peter Varkonyi also recalled that "the HSWP, in an appeal made public jointly with the Finnish Social Democratic Party and the Italian Socialist Party, initiated [as received] to summon the experts of countries which do not possess nuclear weapons to a conference which would aim at examining, in open dialogue, the opportunities of soonest possible progress in the fields of European security, confidence-building and disarmament. These parties started from the fact that all countries have an interest in achieving that it be impossible to turn back the disarmament process. And although they acknowledge the importance of the role of the nuclear powers in safeguarding peace and security, they do not consider it exclusive. And they are of the opinion that we are not only the objects of the disarmament process, but also its committed and active creators as well", he said.

In the following, examining the issues on the agenda of the conference, the Hungarian foreign minister said, among others: Although the main responsibility for nuclear disarmament falls on the nuclear powers, this conference cannot remain ideal. It is, therefore, "unfortunate that the conference has not as yet created the appropriate approach". In spite of this he was of the opinion that "the conference can contribute to advancing nuclear disarmament without it questioning the responsibility o teprmrily concerned nuclear powers, or taking upon itself the tasks of other negotiation forums."

"The ban of nuclear testing is a step of key importance" on the road to checking the nuclear arms race, and for disarmament, said the foreign minister, and underlined: "our standpoint remains unchanged: the immediate, total and final banning of nuclear tests."

Peter Varkonyi welcomed the talks opened between the Soviet Union and the United States on issues related to the ban. "We consider the so-called limit agreements and the systems to be worked out for their verification, the conceptions related to reducing the number and degree of tests, as steps necessary to attain the general ban. In this context, the Hungarian side is ready to support these steps."

Peter Varkonyi termed the prevention of the space arms race as "the cardinal issue of international security and disarmament."

"We would hold it expedient", the Hungarian foreign minister said, "If the committee would begin to work out a system that would guarantee the security of satellites orbiting around the earth, in other words, would ensure immunity necessary for their undisturbed operation."

With respect to chemical weapons he noted: "Hungary continues to take a stand for the complete and strictly controlled ban, for the total elimination of the stocks". He termed as unfortunate that the compromise proposals of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries have so far "not brought the justly expected results". Peter Varkonyi voiced appreciation to the Government of the Soviet Union for opening the Shihan chemical weapon site, and making public the data referring to its chemical weapons stock. At the same time he pointed out that prospects of agreement are impaired by the decision, under which the prodcution of binary chemical weapons is to begin in the United States.

Peter Varkonyi officially reconfirmed: "The Hungarian People's Republic does not possess chemical weapon stock, nor industrial facilities to produce chemical weapons. It does not carry out chemical weapons research, and does not wish to acquire chemical weapons in the future, either. Other states do not store chemical weapon stocks on the area of the Hungarian People's Republic, nor do they carry out activity of this kind."

Peter Varkonyi voiced his opinion, that "there are no obstacles in principle for this forum to place the sphere of issues of conventional arms on its agenda."

"The achieved, and hoped-for results in the field of restricting nuclear weapons, and their disarmament, place the issue of reducing the conventional forces and weaponry to the foreground. We are at present witnessing this phenomena in Europe, but the problem is by no means limited to this continent. The proposals submitted by the member states of the Warsaw treaty, including Hungary, refer to Europe, but they have significance for other regions, too. Reviewing these can be useful also in the framework of the disarmament conference, or other disarmament forums of the UNO", stressed the Hungarian foreign minister.

In conclusion Peter Varkonyi dealt with proposals which aim at making the work of the disarmament conference more modern, efficient and successful. 'I believe that the third special session of the UN General Assembly to deal with disarmament issues will provide a good opportunity to review the operation of the disarmament mechanism, to carry out the necessary modifications, and to explore more effective negotiation forms and procedures."

Chnoupek Confers With Varkonyi in Geneva

LD041910 Prague CTK in English
1822 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Geneva Feb 4 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak-Hungarian relations and cooperation were discussed here today by the two countries' foreign ministers Bohuslav Chnoupek and Peter Varkonyi respectively.

They discussed possibilities of the further development of the significant document on increasing the efficiency of the conference on disarmament in Geneva adopted by the session of the Warsaw treaty committee of foreign ministers in Prague last year and submitted to the conference as an official document.

Bohuslav Chnoupek and Peter Varkonyi also discussed further possibilities of concerted steps in the international sphere.

Meets FRG's Genscher

LD041908 Prague CTK in English
1633 GMT 4 Feb 88

[TEXT] Geneva Feb 4 (CTK correspondent)—Foreign Ministers Bohuslav Chnoupek of Czechoslovakia and Hans-Dietrich Genscher of the FRG stressed during their meeting here today the extraordinary importance of the Soviet-U.S. treaty on the liquidation of medium- and shorter-range missiles and called for its quick ratification.

They also stressed that the conclusion of a treaty to reduce by 50 per cent Soviet and U.S. strategic offensive weapons would be significant.

The two foreign ministers exchanged views on the possibility of limiting and scrapping tactical nuclear weapons and accelerating preparations for a mandate for a European forum on conventional disarmament within the framework of the Helsinki process. They spoke about possibilities of making more efficient the work of the Conference on Disarmament, especially in the question of banning chemical weapons.

Bohuslav Chnoupek and Hans-Dietrich Genscher discussed several aspects of Czechoslovak-West German cooperation in harmony with the conclusions of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's recent visit to Prague.

U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Holds Talks

Confers With Zhivkov

AU041416 Sofia BTA in English
1406 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Sofia, February 4 (BTA)—State Council President Todor Zhivkov received today U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead, who is currently on an official visit to Bulgaria.

The two politicians held a constructive discussion on the bilateral relations and their state after Mr Whitehead's previous visit to Bulgaria exactly a year ago. They agreed that the relations between Bulgaria and the United States are developing well. The improved international atmosphere has played a positive role in this respect.

There is now a trend to develop more active contacts between the two countries at different levels, to promote the cooperation in science and technology. Measures have been taken to broaden the trade and economic contacts and to better utilize the opportunities in this field. The Bulgarian head of state and the U.S. deputy secretary of state expressed their countries' willingness to undertake further efforts for the promotion of their fruitful interaction based on the principle of mutual advantage. They expressed the view that this is the only correct way to develop the relations between the two countries.

The exchange of views on international issues centered first of all on the East-West relations, on the problems of peace, security, cooperation and disarmament. The two politicians assessed positively the development of the Soviet-American relations and expressed the hope that this process will be continued. Certain other international issues were also discussed.

The talks between Mr John Whitehead and Foreign Minister Petur Mladenov started this morning.

Concludes Visit

AU050913 Sofia BTA in English
0843 GMT 5 Feb 88

[Text] Sofia, February 5 (BTA)—Mr John Whitehead, U.S. deputy secretary of state, completed his official visit to Bulgaria today.

He was received by State Council President Todor Zhivkov and by Foreign Minister Petur Mladenov.

During their talks the Bulgarian foreign minister and the U.S. deputy secretary of state examined the current state and future of the Bulgaro-American relations and their place in the East-West dialogue. They agreed with satisfaction that these relations have been activated in the last year or two and that constructive and useful dialogue has been started in a number of fields of common interest. According to the two diplomats, a good atmosphere has been created for the further development of the contacts. This has been achieved through the joint efforts of the two countries. There is a shared view that the cooperation in the political, economic and cultural fields, as well as in certain other areas of common interest, can be broadened further. The Bulgarian side to the talks expressed the view that the conditions exist for a transition to a qualitatively new and higher stage in the development of the relations, based on a broader understanding, confidence and cooperation.

Mr Petur Mladenov and Mr John Whitehead discussed certain international issues before all in the sphere of East-West relations, as well as the situation in other parts of the world. They noted that there is a positive tendency to generally improve the international situation.

The two politicians discussed certain matters on which the two countries' positions do not coincide. They agreed that dialogue should be maintained in a constructive and well-meaning spirit without confrontation.

Mr John Whitehead had meetings with Mr Andrey Lukanov, minister of foreign economic relations, and Mr Stoyan Ovcharov, minister of economics and planning. His talks with them centered on the restructuring process in Bulgaria and the development of the trade and economic relations between Bulgaria and the United States. They emphasized the need to dismantle the existing barriers.

Meetings were also held between Mr Lyuben Gotsev, deputy minister of foreign affairs of Bulgaria, and Mrs Ann Wrobleski, assistant secretary of state and Mr Alvin Adams, ambassador at the State Department and expert on combatting terrorism. The American representatives had talks at the Chief Customs Administration, the Ministry of Public Health and the Office of the Chief Prosecutor.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with their talks in general. They agreed that these contacts will help the two countries get to know each other better and strengthen their understanding and cooperation.

'Fruitful Dialogue' With U.S.'Gains Speed'

AU041354 Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian
3 Feb 88 p 3

[Kalin Todorov article: "Bulgaria-U.S.—Fruitful Dialogue Gains Speed"]

[Text] We can formulate one of the categorical imperatives of the new political thinking in the following manner: The ideological differences must not erect barriers in the way of economic, scientific-technical, and cultural cooperation. "The image of the enemy" must give way to the image of the partner.

The development of Bulgarian-U.S. relations in the last 2 years well illustrates this thaw in international relations. After severing relations in 1941, restoring them in 1947, severing them again in 1950, and restoring them again in 1959, diplomatic relations between the two countries were elevated to the ambassadorial level only in 1966. The dialogue encountered difficulties, contacts had a sporadic character, and the artificially created barriers were very high. However, in 1986 relations began to improve, and the mutually beneficial dialogue began to accelerate.

If we survey the chronology of this process we must begin with the visit to Bulgaria of Rozanne Ridgway, U.S. assistant secretary of state for European and Canadian affairs. She was received by Petur Mladenov and Andrey Lukanov. During the visit, progress was noted in some matters of a bilateral character, and joint willingness was expressed to expand bilateral relations in specific areas. This took place in mid-December 1986. Only 2 months later John Whitehead, U.S. deputy secretary of state, arrived in Bulgaria. Today we have the pleasure of greeting him again in Bulgaria. He was received by Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the State Council, and by other state leaders. In July a delegation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, led by Lyuben Gotsev, deputy minister of foreign affairs, met in Washington with responsible representatives of the Department of State. The laconic diplomatic language with which the results of the meeting were described gives only a limited idea of the level on which relations between Bulgaria and the U.S. have already been elevated: "The two governments desire to continue the process of activating political contacts, expanding economic relations, and solving the problems of mutual interest."

If we look at the realities behind this formula we will see that "the activization of political contacts" is already being filled with content and with visits to Bulgaria by Stephen Solarz, congressman from the Democratic Party, member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific; of the delegation of the National Conference of State Legislatures, led by its chairman Irving Stolberg; of the delegation of the House of Representatives led by Congressman Thomas Lantos; and of Congressmen Steny Hoyer, William Richardson, and Richard Shifter... Atanas Ginev, deputy minister of foreign trade; Angel Dimitrov, secretary of the Permanent Board of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union; and Milena Stamboliyska, deputy chairman of the National Assembly, have visited the United States.

Let us try to decode the phrase "expanding economic relations." The most recent data of the economic reference books show that in 1984 Bulgaria exported to the United States goods to the tune of 33.4 million currency leva, while the imports were valued at 61.4 million leva. In 1985 the respective figures were 27.4 and 152.4 million leva. "I am firmly convinced that the artificial barriers, which brought trade between the two countries down to symbolic figures, will gradually collapse. We highly value the authority and great scientific-technical and economic potential of the United States and want to develop normal and active economic relations," Todor Zhivkov said during the first session of the Bulgarian-U.S. Trade-Economic Council [BATIS], which opened on 17 June 1987 in Sofia.

The agreement on establishing BATIS, which was signed 2 months earlier, proves that the changes in the structure and management of the Bulgarian economy further increased its international prestige. "Bulgaria is a solid partner of trade exchange and economic cooperation. It evokes an increasing interest among the U.S. business circles." This was the opinion of Frank Popoff, chairman of Dow Chemical Corporation. This was eloquently confirmed by the participation of the following major companies in the first session of BATIS: "Pepsico Wines and Spirits," "Universal Oil Products," "Adorance," [name as published], "Honeywell High-Tech Trading," "Cheromy," [name as published], "Estee Lauder International," "Retrotech," "Price Waterhouse," and "Coca Cola International." The first session was very fruitful. It produced agreements on creating joint enterprises and associations, joint financing of construction projects in Bulgaria, industrial production sharing, and export to third countries. It also revealed good prospects of cooperation in biotechnologies, chemical, food, dairy, and light industries, electronics, and perfume and cosmetics production. The paths of cooperation will be followed by science itself. In 1987 3 major Bulgarian-U.S. scientific forums were organized: a conference on Bulgaria's candidacy for membership in GATT, a symposium on applying scientific results in practice, and a seminar on foreign currency and stock market operations with "Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc." This company had the best financial results in the United States in 1986, and this fact speaks for itself.

The mutual interest is obvious, and is a guarantee that John Whitehead's second visit to Bulgaria will further accelerate the fruitful dialogue.

New Law Issued on Foreign Ship Visits

AU031947 Sofia BTA in English
1900 GMT 3 Feb 88

["Bulgaria's Sea Areas Act Enforcement Regulations"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, February 3 (BTA)—The regulations for the enforcement of Bulgaria's sea areas act published in the latest issue of the "DURZHAVEN VESTNIK" (official gazette) codify the procedures for ships' entry to and exit from Bulgarian seaports and roadsteads, for port calls by foreign registered ships, operated for nonmerchant purposes, for calls by non-military nuclear-powered ships and by ships carrying radioactive material, for carrying out marine scientific research and economic activities and for the pollution control of the sea areas. Separate sections of the regulations deal with the navigation

regime and with the suspended navigation regime in certain areas, with the international border control regime and with the carrying out of diving and other underwater activities.

The following Bulgarian ports and roadsteads are closed to calls by foreign ships:

1. The port of Sozopol and its roadstead, the roadstead extending between the coastline and the lines connecting Cape Skamnia with St Peter's Rock and St Ivan's Island with the Cape of Talasakra;

2. The port of Atiya and its roadstead, the roadstead extending between the coastline and the lines connecting Cape Atiya with Bolshevik Island and Cape Chukalya.

The document says that in cases of emergency entry of the country's internal sea waters and of emergency port and roadstead calls, the commanding officer of a foreign naval ship is obliged to contact immediately the captain of the nearest port and to proceed to the berth assigned to his vessel.

Three foreign naval ships at the most can call simultaneously to Bulgaria's internal sea waters and seaports, and they can stay there for no more than seven days, except when otherwise permitted.

Bulgarian and foreign yachts, boats and other vessels for sport, tourism and entertainment, when calling to the open Bulgarian ports and docking facilities and when navigating Bulgaria's internal waters and territorial sea, may not be lent to unauthorized persons under any pretext whatsoever, may not be steered by persons under the influence of alcohol and may not be used to recover objects of cultural, historical or other value from the sea bed. They are likewise forbidden to transport cargoes or passengers for pay if they have not obtained the appropriate licences, as well as to come to shore and land outside the designated areas, except in emergency.

Berthing, housing, repair and supply facilities for sports and tourist vessels shall be established in the Black Sea tourist complexes of Albena, Golden Sands, Druzhba, Sunny Beach and Dyuni. The said vessels will be assigned berthing areas in the ports of Varna, Nesebur, Pomorie and Burgas. Vessels may not be housed outside the seaports or the designated berthing facilities, nor can they come to shore there.

Bulgarian- and foreign-registered yachts, boats and other sports and tourist vessels can be used inside the area of the docking facility, outside the beach area allowed for swimming and into the sea at a distance of up to six kilometres only during daylight hours.

The regulations allow Bulgarian and foreign organisations to carry out research, development and economic activities in Bulgaria's sea areas on the basis of contracts and programmes which should mandatorily list effective measures for the protection and regeneration of marine resources, for the pollution control of the marine environment, for a rational and comprehensive utilization and protection of the sea bed and of the subsoil thereof.

The resort complexes of Albena, Golden Sands, Druzhba, Sunny Beach and Dyuni shall equip diving grounds where Bulgarian and foreign nationals will be able to practice diving under the supervision of trained instructors and in strict observance of safety regulations. Without a specific licence, divers may not recover from the sea bed, displace or photograph monuments of culture and valuable natural formations, and they may not use equipment and systems for the location of archaeological sites.

The regulations' entry into force repeals the hitherto effective provisions in this field.

Further Reportage on BCP Conference

Stoichkov Gives Speech

AU021518 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 31 Jan 88 p

[Speech by Grigor Stoichkov, candidate member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, delegate from Khaskovo Oblast—boldface passages as published]

[Text] It is an undeniable truth that our party and people today live in a dynamic era of radical changes.

Two years have elapsed since the 13th BCP Congress. This is not a very long period, we could even say that it is short. Nevertheless this period was marked by events which, in terms of their profound significance, were of decisive importance for our party's, our country's, and our people's fate.

Such an event was the July Plenum of the BCP Central Committee, which adopted **"Basic Premises of the Concept for the Further Development of Socialism in the People's Republic of Bulgaria."**

Comrade Todor Zhivkov defined this concept as a basic point of departure for the party's activities in accomplishing changes of historical importance in the development of socialism.

The strongest argument in support of this evaluation is the fact that the concept which was adopted, in terms of its scope and innovative effect and with its programmatic character aimed at innovation, **is a potential basis for great, revolutionary changes in our country.**

As to its significance this restructuring process is a continuation of the 9 September 1944 revolution and of the historically significant April 1956 BCP Central Committee Plenum.

The changes that occurred during the aforementioned period—namely, following the 13th BCP Congress—**imposed the objective necessity of holding the BCP National Conference.**

The historic significance of the present conference lies in the fact that it will adopt a resolution on the mobilization of efforts and nationwide progress for restructuring in all spheres and all activities.

Comrade Todor Zhivkov's report under the title: "Restructuring—A Cause of the Party, a Cause of the People" represents a new contribution to the theory and practice of socialism in our country under the qualitatively new stage of development. This stage is characterized by the comprehensive elaboration of restructuring problems in the economic, scientific, and cultural sectors, as well as in party organizational activities, and ideology. The report is characterized by its effective character—it represents a clear and organic synthesis mapping out the trends and practical approaches for the implementation of the July plenum concept.

The aforementioned report and concept are documents of great strategic significance for the party.

I would like to dwell on some aspects of them.

How can they be described?

In terms of its profound essence, the July concept is **identical with the April line under the new stage of development.**

As was stressed on several occasions, the April plenum cleared the path for all new and progressive trends in our political and social life, as well as in the democratization of social relations. Throughout 3 decades the People's Republic of Bulgaria developed at one of the highest rates in the world and achieved a high social standard. It earned undeniable international prestige, as well. A particularly important fact throughout all this period was that, regardless of the steadily deteriorating international economic situation, no political, economic, or social perturbations were allowed to occur in our country.

What is the reason for this stability in our development?

It is due, above all, to the efforts of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and of the Central Committee, to Comrade Todor Zhivkov's personal efforts and to their skill in analyzing the situation in the spirit of the April line of policy, as well as in the timely coordination of their policy with the respective stage of development. Thus, considered from the present-day point of view and from the historical point of view of the past, we can see that the April Plenum policy has inspired every congress, every BCP plenum, as well as every 5-year plan in our country.

This is why we can definitely state that, in firmly and consistently applying the April plenum line of policy, **we logically reached to the July plenum concept.**

This is one of the greatest assets of the BCP and of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

The other factor is that the new goals and tasks laid down in the concept will produce a further, qualitative development of our economy and society, they will totally reveal the advantages and the force of attraction of socialism in our country.

In addition to this, however, the concept has another meaning—**it will play a definite role in further rallying our nation and in mobilizing the masses.** Why?

This is because, in their global essence, the goals which the concept sets forth are uniform. They entirely coincide with the interests of the BCP, of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union [BZNS], and of the non-party members, of all generations, and strata of our people, as well as with the interests of our state.

The concept creates conditions for coordinating the interests of economic organizations and territorial units, which is very important in connection with the need to rally all efforts for the accomplishment of the working people's economic and social tasks.

This implies that the interests of the workers class, of the agricultural workers, and of the people's intelligentsia are identical. This is precisely why the working people accept the concept without any reservations and with total conviction, because they see their future in it.

There is another factor. In implementing the concept of the July plenum the decisions of the conference are creating conditions for the elimination of negative phenomena from our lives.

As is known, in his memorandum to the BCP Central Committee Politburo, entitled: "Let Us Engage in Resolute Struggle Against Negative Phenomena in Our Life" submitted in August 1985, the BCP general secretary revealed negative phenomena and raised the question of the struggle against them.

Numerous measures were implemented through party organizations and state organs. Nevertheless, the analysis of these phenomena revealed a trend toward stagnation.

Today, **under the conditions** of placing socialist property under the management and administration of the labor collectives, which are responsible for the management, use, and development of this property, **under the conditions** of self-management and extensive glasnost, social relations and objective prerequisites for eliminating negative phenomena are being created.

This is a factor of exceptionally great importance which enables us to involve entire collectives in the struggle against negative phenomena and social distortions, until they are totally eliminated.

Restructuring should not only be regarded as a theoretical concept and a political line. It is a social practice affecting the base and the superstructure, pertaining to the economic, social, and cultural spheres. The approach to restructuring developed in the concept requires the adoption of a method and style of work that should be conform with the principles.

How can we describe the most important and significant factors?

These factors are characterized by firm resolve, a dynamic spirit, and broad scope, as well as by a specific, practical approach that should prevail in the implementation of party decisions.

In implementing these principles the Council of Ministers adopted a package of normative documents which, in their essence, represent an overall economic mechanism of socialist self-management.

In addition to this, the government's efforts were focused on **laying down the basis for qualitatively new growth with the 1988 plan** by guaranteeing progressive changes in both the national economic structure, as well as in the inter-branch and commodity structure of individual complexes.

Along with this, in 1988 it is envisaged that one will **begin with the gradual implementation of a series of measures in the sphere of social policy** which were explained by Comrade Todor Zhivkov in his introductory speech. **The innovation** in this respect lies in the fact that an effort is being made to succeed in comprehensively satisfying the individual's needs, in accordance with his performance as a working man—as both a producer and consumer of material and intellectual assets.

Other measures are also being adopted in connection with implementing the principle of self-management and the application of new economic regulators.

Nevertheless, we must admit that economic regulators will not function automatically. This is why now, in the transitional period, when they are not fully operational, it is particularly important to know when and to what extent the state organs should intervene in order to maintain the necessary balance in the national economy and to guarantee the fulfillment of the plan, and better satisfy the people's needs.

A very important task at the present stage of development is to create all necessary preconditions for adopting the principle of socialist self-management, for transforming our society into a self-managing society.

The fundamental changes in production relations connected with placing the objects of socialist property under the management and administration of the labor collectives represent a basis for the expansion of self-management. This is not only of practical, but of great theoretical importance in connection with perfecting social relations.

Self-management in economic organizations and enterprises transforms the labor collectives into fully independent managers of their own economic, social, and cultural life. They are granted full rights to solve all problems in their production and social activities. This enables them to use the socialist property transferred to them most efficiently and to increase social labor productivity as a chief factor for effective economic growth.

In accordance with the **principles of self-management,the territorial administration system is also being changed.**

The establishment of territorial units—namely, municipalities, townships, and oblasts—is not a simple administrative, territorial reform, but represents a basically new territorial organization of the population, involving qualitatively new rights and responsibilities.

Never before, in the history of administrative-territorial changes has such a **radical transfer of functions, rights, and responsibilities from higher to lower levels**—namely, to townships and municipalities—been carried out.

This is happening on the basis of the principle that was adopted—namely, that basic functions, rights, and responsibilities should be focused on the places where people live.

The present task is to imbue the new form of territorial units with a new meaning.

As is known, we are expecting the forthcoming elections for local organs. In the spirit of the July plenum decision, the Law on Elections was amended with the aim of further democratizing our system. This right, however, is being exercised too timidly. According to preliminary data, only a few electoral districts have nominated two or more candidates for people's councillors.

During the current election campaign, it is necessary to explain the new functions, rights, and responsibilities of the people's councils with regard to the population.

Following the elections, the newly elected organs, together with the Fatherland Front committees, should develop and adopt programs for the comprehensive development of townships and municipalities, and for the solution of the most crucial and urgent of the population's problems.

In addition to this, the necessary conditions should be created so that the entire people and the individual citizen may become aware that they are masters of their territories and are directly involved in administration.

Only in this manner will we achieve the goal of placing man at the center of the new municipality—man, with all his needs, problems, and opportunities. This is the great question. The decisions of the conference direct us toward this task, which the policy of restructuring requires.

A new atmosphere is being created in our country under the self-management system. This atmosphere is characterized by the process of a new thinking, by the new approach to property and economic regulators. Nevertheless, at the same time certain difficulties and contradictions are emerging. With our first steps forward, we are already coming across such phenomena.

How can they be described?

We are talking about trends emerging in connection with the application of the new economic regulators.

As early as this stage, in explaining and in applying these regulators, certain leading cadres from the associations, trusts, and enterprises are beginning to evaluate them only from the point of view of whether they are suitable under existing production conditions.

The question is whether we should adjust the economic regulators to the existing situation in individual production branches, namely, whether we should create conditions for further reproduction of low technical standards, of inefficient management, and of outdated structures, or **whether we should stand firmly upon the principle of the July Plenum, namely:** to make the production process conform to the principles of the economic mechanism. In other words, is our task to embark upon the path of innovation and creativity and to reveal wide-scope, new technical solutions, to increase the effectiveness of our production.

Another question pertains to self-management, and discipline.

Under the conditions of self-management the economic organizations and territorial communities are granted extensive rights. On the other hand, such extensive rights are connected with great responsibilities and obligations.

Under the new conditions, individual and collective discipline represents an important factor in the self-management system. Why is this so?

It is, because the self-managing organizations are developing and operating with mutual interaction and with mutual relations, with objectively defined goals and requirements of the state based on regulations.

This is precisely why the economic organizations' former attempts to abstain from signing agreements, as well as to fail in their obligations as regards production sharing deliveries, and the centralized funds, and in their relations with the market, must be resolutely curtailed, because they contradict the principles of socialist organization.

Let us take the example of enterprises engaged in producing means of production, which are also in charge of producing certain amounts of mass consumer goods alongside their basic production.

It is true that this situation involves problems; nevertheless, it is also true that the managements of certain enterprises are not ready to solve these problems, that they fail to sign agreements and to ensure the necessary efficient organization, but insist on pointing out various reasons for their failure.

This is actually a narrow-minded, bureaucratic approach, an effort to disregard the interests of society as a whole.

Self-management requires strict order, organization, and a high level of discipline for the sake of the collective, the community, and the state.

A new social consciousness, as well as basically new approaches and methods of leadership in economic and social life are required, in order to master the new processes.

This is natural, since the change is profound and comprehensive. Never before have we faced such a turning point in our social experience.

As the report to the conference pointed out, this is why changes are called for, not only in the economic sector, but also in the legal superstructure, the cultural area, the health, and the social sectors—changes should be introduced along all lines.

We are now all required to work with high-level criteria and to apply a new set of instruments in leadership.

This means that everyone should give a precise answer on his own ideas about the significance of restructuring for his own organization and territory, for his own sphere of activities, for himself.

It is necessary to be aware of and demonstrate new requirements toward the leader—not to wait for instructions and directives from above on every subject, but to assume risks and search for solutions, and, most important, to work for the implementation of the plan and for the accomplishment of the tasks.

The management of every organization, enterprise, and community **must adopt its own policy regarding its respective activity and territorial unit** in accordance with

the general strategy and the country's policy, taking into consideration the specific conditions and the fact that it is in charge of administrating the objects of socialist property.

This undoubtedly imposes entirely new requirements on the leading cadres: They are required to implement the national goals, to intellectualize [intelektualizira] production in accordance with the achievements of the scientific-technical revolution, and, on this basis, to achieve high efficiency, to improve the economic and social atmosphere within the collectives, to render account to the population in the respective territories, and to take account of their requirements.

All this calls for a basically new organization of work and leadership.

We are talking about a type of organization in which every worker, every specialist, and every leader should be involved and which should guarantee a synthesis of the parallel development of economic, social, and cultural life on the territory of every municipality and oblast, of the country as a whole.

I would like to state in conclusion that the restructuring process is creating a new political, economic, social, and ideological atmosphere which creates all the conditions for expanding the working people's initiative for a new upsurge in implementing the concept for the further construction of socialism in Bulgaria.

Politburo Approves Event

AU031857 Sofia BTA in English 1830 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Sofia, February 3 (BTA)—The Politburo of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party made some preliminary assessments and conclusions on the work of the BCP National Conference held on January 28 and 29 this year. It observed that the conference took place completely in the spirit of the resolutions of the July Plenum of the CC of the BCP and the concept on the further construction of socialism in Bulgaria. Not only did the conference unanimously approve this concept as a comprehensive platform for the innovation of our socialist society, but also developed it further and added to it with its documents and in many aspects it specified this concept.

The conference showed that the ideas and views for revolutionary restructuring are more and more influencing the consciousness of the cadres and of the Communists and that they are enjoying a nationwide approval and support, the Politburo of the CC of the BCP pointed out. It assesses the discussions of the conference as meaningful and concrete. The National Party Conference became a tribune of the party and the nation. All this turned the BCP National Conference into an important political event. It was stressed that now it is most important to rally the forces of the party and of the entire society in the implementation of its guidelines.

In this connection the Politburo of the CC of the BCP mapped out a number of practical measures for the implemetation of the resolutions of the BCP Cational Conference.

Analysis of Conference

Paris LE MONDE in French 29 Jan 88 p 2

[Article by Alain Debove: "Bulgaria: Convening of a National Conference — The Communist Party Endeavors To Define Its Plans for Economic Reform]

[Text] A national conference of the Bulgarian Communist Party convened on Thursday, the 28th, and Friday, the 29th of January in Sofia. Its purpose is primarily to examine the plans for restructuring the economy. An opinion poll on this subject, published in the trade union daily, shows that more than half of the people questioned are in favor of the reforms, but that 80 percent of them believe that these projects will encounter obstacles; 91 percent favor more democracy, but only 58.3 percent believe that the policy of glasnost ("openness") should not be limited.

Officially, the annual national BCP conference, which was originally scheduled for last December, was postponed to "permit the party and state organs, as well as the workers, to concentrate their efforts to fulfill the yearly plan and prepare for the 1988 plan." In fact, it appears more likely that it was delayed in an attempt to bring some order to the undertaking of an all-around restructuring, the practical consequences of which the leadership in Sofia had not anticipated.

As far as restructuring is concerned, Bulgaria is without doubt the East European country which has produced the most documents and ambitious plans. After the implementation of the new "economic mechanisms" in January 1986, the July 1987 Central Committee plenum outlined a sort of Bulgarian model of reforms covering "all aspects of society." At the beginning, an administrative reorganization of the country — in which eight regions, plus the city of Sofia were created —involved the dismissal of more than 20,000 regional bureaucrats.

The process, having begun in this way, should naturally give rise to some reservations. It also involves the autonomy of enterprises and the reorganization of the wage system, which should be adapted to the performance of the enterprises and that of each employee. At the same time, the agenda includes a reform of the prices, which, officially, should correspond in the future to the prices in the international market. On that point, the authorities have already prepared to retreat by

announcing that they envision a transition period for adjusting the artificial prices, which are set by the state, to real prices, in order to avoid a surge in inflation.

Additionally, and for the first time, the local elections scheduled for February are to take place in a "democratic" way in that two or more candidates will be listed on the ballot.

Moreover, as the belief in self-management is strongly held, the ruling circles have decided that the enterprise managers should now be elected by their employees. Since July of last year, such elections have taken place, and about 3 percent of the candidates were not elected, a fact that is considered in Bulgaria to be an "encouraging democratic outcome."

"Explanation Effort" (subhead)

In Sofia, the issue is primarily of restructuring for purely economic reasons and much less a matter of "glasnost." The BCP General Secretary and Chief of State Todor Zhivkov raised the question of the press at the plenum last December, however. In his opinion, the press has not been critical enough of the authorities, and it should reorganize itself and publish among other things, "articles capable of interesting the readers."

But all these recommendations are viewed with a certain skepticism by the majority of Bulgarians, who, accustomed to a comfortable system, know that the reforms will entail, in all probability, a decrease in their wages and possibly also the closing of some enterprises, in submission to the laws of the market. It is likely, moreover, that the reforms will be considered too tough by a part of the Central Committee, and this is doubtlessly one of the reasons why the party conference was postponed. An influential member of the Central Committee confided to us in December that there was "an important effort to explain the restructuring that has to be carried out."

Zhivkov, Kubadinski Discuss Coming Elections

AU041451 Sofia BTA in English
1349 GMT 4 Feb 88

["Bulgaria on the Eve of Elections: Speech by T. Zhivkov"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, February 4 (BTA)—Mr Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the CC of the BCP and president of the State Council, today spoke of the need for qualitatively new changes in all fields of life in Bulgaria.

At a plenum of the National Council of the Fatherland Front on the preparations for the forthcoming local elections (scheduled for February 28, 1988), Mr Zhivkov stated that restructuring has been brought about by objective changes at home and abroad. The potential of the model of development of socialism, employed until now, has been exhausted and this requires a transition to new forms of management of the socialist property, the development of socialist democracy and changes in the structure of power which would permit the mobilization of the nation's creative energy. The ultimate aim is to transform the power on behalf of the people into power through the people.

Mr Todor Zhivkov said that the concept for the development of socialism in Bulgaria developed by the BCP CC Plenum of July 1987 and further improved at the BCP CC Plenum of November 1987 and the BCP National Conference, held at the end of last month, is in line with the general laws governing the development of socialism and takes into consideration the specific conditions in Bulgaria. This concept is no dogma; it will be developed further according to the changes in the objective conditions.

The Bulgarian party and state leader went on to discuss certain aspects of the international situation. He stated that there is no alternative to peaceful coexistence, that the new political thinking proclaimed by the Soviet Union proves socialism's adherence to peace and opens the way for the salvation of mankind from the threat of nuclear annihilation.

Mr Pencho Kubadinski, member of the Politburo of the BCP CC and president of the National Council of the Fatherland Front, delivered a report at the plenum. He said that the forthcoming elections will be held under the conditions of considerable changes in the electoral system reflected in the amendments to the electoral law which was adopted recently. The aim of these substantial changes is the further democratization of the process of choosing the representative bodies. Guarantees of total power of the people have been given. The most important thing is that an unlimited number of candidates can be nominated for every seat. The legal and political essence of the working people's participation in all phases of the electoral process is also new.

Mr Pencho Kubadinski spoke of the desire to guarantee a correct ratio and representation of the different strata of the population at the forthcoming elections (in terms of political affiliation, profession and age). The candidacies have been discussed carefully and openly at thousands of meetings of the Fatherland Front and other public organizations in the electoral districts, factories and offices. There is every reason to claim that the people's participation has been increased considerably because of the competitive nature of the elections. The candidacies proposed by the public organizations have received mass support. At the same time, many criticisms and recommendations have been made and a large number of new candidates have been proposed.

The president of the National Council of the Fatherland Front announced that there are 66,582 candidates for 55,426 seats (for people's councillors and mayors). He

said that this figure is unsatisfactory from the point of view of restructuring. Only 20 per cent of the electoral districts will have more than one candidate per seat.

Mr Pencho Kubadinski expressed the view that the leaderships of some local branches of the public organizations have obviously been slow in understanding their rights and responsibilities. They have not fully realized the spirit and ideas of the democratic changes in the electoral law. Formalism, inertia and old stereotypes have still not been completely overcome.

After discussing the issues, the plenum adopted a decision approving the proposal for the political and other public organizations to approve common candidates on behalf of the Fatherland Front for the forthcoming elections.

The document assesses positively the discussion of the Nominations and emphasizes the importance of the new approach that envisages competition in the process of nominating candidates.

Narcotics, Alcohol-Related Crime Noted

AU031424 Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian 1 Feb 88 pp 1, 4

[Report by Yuri Stefanov: "The Regular Attack on Alcoholism Begins"]

[Excerpts] A month of intense temperance propaganda begins today. Optimism is inspired by the successful fulfillment of certain tasks of Council of Ministers Decree No 67.

At first sight it is strange that, in a country that has long been a world producer of wine and tobacco, the temperance campaign has century-long traditions. In fact, there is no paradox—our forefathers, men of learning and revolutionaries, understood that temperance is not a key to the gates of heaven, but a guarantee for a strong and healthy nation, for a lively and robust younger generation. For this reason temperance has been fostered by the state since the time of Khan Krum, and so it has been to the present day. [passage omitted]

According to the data of the Directorate of the People's Militia, almost one-quarter of all crime is committed by persons affected by alcohol. This figure includes 58.7 percent of premeditated murders, 66.4 percent of attempted murders, 49.8 percent of rapes, 45.6 percent of thefts of individual and public property, and 27.3 percent of crimes in public places. It is also a fact that 10 percent of vehicle accidents are caused by drunken drivers. Over a 5-year period more than 16,000 inebriated drivers have had their licenses taken away. [passage omitted]

Now a word about drug addicts.

In conducting agitation against cigarettes and alcohol, in Temperance Month we often forget about the drug addicts. Dr Atanas Yonchev, the duty doctor at Psychiatric Clinic No 4 of the Scientific Institute of Psychology, Psychiatry, and Neurosurgery under the Medical Academy, replied to some of our questions: "We have about 370 registered drug addicts, of which around 15 are at present undergoing treatment. There is a marked tendency for this phenomenon to increase. Bulgarian drug addicts normally do not use true narcotics, but make use of medical drugs, adhesives and tranquilizers. However, there is no room for complacency, since the inhaling of adhesives and the use of medical drugs is also sometimes very dangerous.

"In Bulgaria the narcotics problem has not been underestimated, but in my view the approach to it is wrong. In Bulgaria drug addicts are regarded more as criminals than as sick people. This attitude is even more unjust against the background of the tolerance we have toward the other forms of drug addiction, such as alcoholism and tobacco smoking." [passage omitted]

PFLP, Tishrin Denounce U.S. Mideast Initiative

LD041818 Prague CTK in English
1640 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Beirut Feb 3 (CTK correspondent)—The fact that another U.S. veto prevented the U.N. Security Council from adopting a constructive resolution on the solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict has provoked a new wave of indignant condemnation.

The U.S. Government has motivated its step by alleged new proposals for the settlement of the Middle East crisis which must be given a chance. Several responses from the Arab world said that this is only an excuse and transparent manoeuvre from the side of the United States. For instance, in the Damascus paper Tishrin stressed that the new U.S. manoeuvres are nothing else than renewed conceptions of a limited autonomy for the Palestinians on the occupied Arab territories. These plans have been condemned by all progressive Arab forces. Certainly the United States does not expect them to be successful this time. The aim of these conceptions is to divert attention from the current people's uprising on the occupied territories and cause new disputes in the Arab ranks. The main aim of the United States is to halt the Palestinian revolution with false promises, the paper stressed.

One of the major Palestinian organizations—the People's Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) has issued a statement condemning the rehashed U.S. plan which was brought to Israel and Jordan in the past days by U.S. Envoy Philip Habib. The plan only repeats the aborted Camp David agreements and represents a hopeless attempt to halt the uprising, the PFLP statement said.

Release on Talks With Vatican Delegation

AU031846 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
1 Feb 88 p 2

[CTK report: "Vatican Delegation Departed"]

[Text] Prague (CTK)—A delegation from the Vatican led by Archbishop Francesco Colasuonno, apostolic nuncio with a special mission, paid a visit to Czechoslovakia from 18 to 29 January. Following up on the talks conducted in Rome last December, it discussed with a Czechoslovak Government delegation led by Deputy Minister Vladimir Janku, director of the CSSR Government Secretariat for Church Affairs, current issues of CSSR-Vatican relations, notably the problem of appointing bishops for some dioceses.

The talks contributed to a deeper understanding of questions of common interest and they will continue in Rome soon.

During its visit the delegation visited Olomouc and Ostrava where it had talks with local church officials. In Prague the delegation was received by Matej Lucan, CSSR deputy premier.

Official Comments on Talks

LD041606 Prague CTK in English
1444 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Prague Feb 4 (CTK)—Last month's talks here with a Vatican delegation have contributed to a deeper understanding of questions of common interest and will continue in Rome in the near future, Vladimir Janku, head of the Czechoslovak Government secretariat for ecclesiastical affairs, has told CTK.

Janku, who headed a government delegation at the talks with the Vatican delegation led by Archbishop Francesco Colasuonno, which left here last Friday, added that the talks in particular on the issue of filling some vacant bishoprics still continue.

Quoting a Rome report of the UPI agency which said that the core of the dispute is the Czechoslovak Government's reluctance to agree with the naming of new bishops proposed by the Vatican if the candidates are not members of the pro-government organization Pacem in Terris, Janku stressed that his partner to the talks Archbishop Colasuonno made no similar statement. "Claims by Western information media that the Czechoslovak state regards only bishops from the association of Catholic clergy Pacem in Terris as acceptable are simply not true", Janku said.

On the other hand, an attitude that would discriminate against a certain part of the clergy only because they actively contribute, together with the fulfilment of their clerical duties, towards maintaining peace and life on earth and help strengthen the real authority of the Roman-Catholic Church in our socialist society, its good relations with the state, is unacceptable for Czechoslovakia. Such a discrimination is unacceptable not only from the civil but also from the legal and moral points of view, Vladimir Janku said.

He said that until last year Western information media claimed that only three of the 13 dioceses were filled. Since then two bishops have died and now claims are made again that only three of the 13 dioceses are filled. There must evidently be certain inconsistencies in counting. The fact is that there were bishops in five of the 12 dioceses, and the rest were led by capitular vicars. After the death of two bishops, there remain bishops in three of the 12 dioceses.

Vladimir Janku stressed that the Czechoslovak Government does not claim the right to appoint bishops. This is a matter of the Vatican. "Our government traditionally states its attitude to the candidates", he said, and added that of all the churches and religious communities operating in Czechoslovakia this is the only case when these

questions are decided not by the domestic church but by the centre abroad. At the same time, however, the post of a bishop carries great influence and authority in this country and therefore society cannot be indifferent to what kind of people represent the church.

Janku said that the demand for a bishop's loyal attitude to the state, the decisive aspect of Czechoslovakia's approach in considering candidates suggested by the Vatican, is not a point of conflict. However, old stereotypes still survive, Janku said and mentioned the influence in the Vatican Curia of emigres who are not interested in good relations and based their existence and careers rather on the very opposite, as well as the influence of some domestic structures. Janku added that certain time is evidently necessary for realism and new thinking to assert themselves on both sides. At present goodwill on both sides is the key issue, he said.

Vladimir Janku went on to point out that Czechoslovakia shows interest in the filling of bishops' posts by bishops not only by words but above all by concrete action. In the past few years it was the Czechoslovak side which has been urging the solution of the questions in accord with agreed principles and criteria.

He said that some forces wish Catholics in this country to be without bishops, and continued that at the time when talks are going on between the state and the Roman-Catholic Church, certain forces abroad and at home began to "beat the alarm" and organized various slanderous and pressure campaigns. These forces do not press for the real interests of the believers and the church. The majority of the Catholics in this country actively help build their homeland while professing their faith. These forces want to misuse the church and religion for their political ends, wishing tension and confrontation.

The talks between the Czechoslovak Government and the Vatican are continuing. Those really interested in their positive outcome should not hinder them either through misinformation or various campaigns, Janku said, and on the basis of the discussions voiced the conviction that the Vatican Curia was aware of these connections.

Jakes To Visit Poland in 'Next Few Days'

LD031551 Prague CTK in English
1509 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Prague Feb 3 (CTK)—General Secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Milos Jakes will pay a visit to Poland in the next few days at the invitation of the Polish United Workers Party Central Committee.

Jakes, GDR Envoy Discuss Cooperation

LD040034 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
2030 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, received in Prague today the extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of the GDR in CSSR, Helmut Ziebart. They discussed some topical issues of cooperation between the CPCZ and the SED and between the two states.

Jakes Meets New Head of Trade Mission to USSR

AU011558 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
29 Jan 88 p 1

[CTK report in the "Receptions, Negotiations, Telegrams, Letters" column]

[Text] Prague—Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, received Jan Machaj, head of the CSSR's trade representation in the USSR, on Thursday [28 January] in connection with the latter's taking of office.

Chnoupek Returns From Geneva Conference

LD042254 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
2030 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek returned home from Geneva today. He was attending a conference on disarmament and addressed the session, submitting proposals of Warsaw Pact member states' foreign ministers on increasing the conference's efficiency and other topical disarmament questions.

British Plan To Form Mobile Brigade Condemned

AU011821 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak
29 Jan 88 p 7

[Bedrich Zagar article in the "Foreign-Political Note" column: "Response Typical of London"]

[Text] A report has arrived from London saying that the government has decided to form a special mobile brigade for deployment "against Soviet troops." In the debate in Parliament on Tuesday [26 January], a government representative said that a 5,000-men strong brigade has been destined for operations against Warsaw Pact troops in NATO's northern sector. Its task will be to "contain the Soviet attack" until reinforcements arrive.

The London government is always in the mood for "military games." That decision, namely, cannot be called by any other name. From where do the appropriate British quarters proceed when they speak of a "Soviet attack"? Is it, perhaps, only a propaganda maneuver to cast dark shadows on the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries? This is, in any case, a step which is at variance with the contemporary disarmament trend following the signing of the Soviet-American treaty on the elimination of two classes of nuclear weapons. Someone in London had apparently felt "inferior" to France, which concluded an agreement on forming a joint military brigade with the FRG. This only attests to the fact that the leading West European countries are somehow unable to reorient themselves to new thinking on military issues. On the one hand, they admit that a military

solution for every problem cannot be considered at present, but, on the other hand, they are preparing for a "military solution." Is that really only the old, habitual stereotype? The old contemplations regarding wars are no longer valid in the contemporary world, which is still full of destructive weapons. After all, any military conflict would mean the destruction of both sides.

Why did the British Government not react positively to the Soviet proposals submitted by Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, in Murmansk last October? Their objective is to achieve a radical reduction of the level of confrontation in the northern hemisphere, and establish peaceful cooperation instead of confrontation. Despite these official Soviet proposals, London is preparing to "contain a Soviet attack," because, allegedly, the "Soviet threat is growing" in NATO's northern sector.

The future of the world would be menacing if all countries spun their own theories on threats from other countries. Might it be that Britain, together with France, think that as the strongest West European countries with their own nuclear potential, they automatically have the right to do this? This does not at all attest to London looking realistically at the contemporary world. And therefore is it justified to say that the formation of a brigade to be deployed in NATO's northern sector is London's typical response to the Soviet proposals to increase the security in the north of our planet. And, at the same time, this is also regretable. London is trying at any price to display its "self-confidence and strength" for admiration. However, such "self-confidence" deserves condemnation instead, because it is to the detriment of other states and the security of all Europe.

Strong Anti-Czech Bias Noted in Austria

AU041620 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 2 Feb 88 p 6

[Article by Karel Cisar, CTK correspondent in Vienna: "Czechoslovakia—An Unknown Country? ; On One Public Opinion Poll in Austria"]

[Excerpts] Relations between Czechoslovakia and Austria have been developing with unusual intensity in recent years. A number of meetings have been held, ranging from talks between Presidents Gustav Husak and Rudolf Kirchschlaeger down to discussions at various government, political, and other levels. The exchange of views on relations between the two countries and on current international issues has grown into a political dialogue. It is not by coincidence that there is now talk of a policy of goodneighborly relations, which was not customary in the past. [passage omitted]

Nonetheless, the relations between the two countries and their people still do not seem to me to be neighborly in the true sense of the word. There are matters and events, but also the absence of events, which compel us to think about good neighborliness; all the more so since the two nations had traveled through history side by side for centuries, a history which was not always harmonious, to put it mildly. But when in the past had relations ever been harmonious? Relations in Europe tend to be the same as in life; they are often more complicated between neighbors than between people separated by hundreds of kilometers.

One of the things that compel me to think about neighborliness is the Austrians' attitude toward Czechs. At the beginning of 1987, in connection with foreign criticism of anti-Semitism, a very representative survey of public opinion was carried out in Austria. [passage omitted] It revealed that anti-Czech sentiments in Austria exceed anti-Semitic sentiments.

In a complicated comparison of sympathies and antipathies, the Czechs finished first, getting 6 out of 10 possible points. Only then did Jews, Russians, the French, and Americans follow. Even Czechs with Austrian citizenship, that is, apparently, members of the Czech minority in Vienna, fared worse than Jews, Slovenes, or Protestants of equal social standing.

In the published results of the survey, the information that anti-Czech sentiments in Austria go deeper than anti-Semitism figured in only a few brief references, and it served almost as an alibi designed to prove that the respondents cannot be all that bad, in fact, if they object to Czechs more than they object to Jews.

Since the publication of the results of the survey, countless articles, discussions, lectures, and other activities have appeared in Austria on what should be done to combat anti-Semitism. But I have not seen a single article that would deal with the attitude of the Austrian population toward Czechs, although the results of the survey would surely merit such an article.

I do not want to be misunderstood. I am not saying that Czechs and Austrians should fall into each other's arms every day. But I think that, considering that Austria has seven neighbors and Czechoslovakia six, the establishing of good neighborliness requires at least basic respect for one another. It does not have to be outright sympathy; it would be enough not to cultivate antipathy. This also involves, for example, that—in the spirit of plain decency—countries should be called by their names and not as they used to be called at the time of Nazism or cold war.

Certainly, the fault does not lie with one side only; it is sometimes hard to be neighbors. However, so far we have all too often conducted our discussions only under the influence of emotions or even wrath, which are never good advisers. Just as it is possible to conduct a political dialogue, so it is possible to conduct a neighborly dialogue. [passage omitted]

The past relations between Czechs and Austrians, the remote and the most recent, would also quite certainly merit a very thorough analysis. It is high time to become clear about this past. The 50th anniversary of the country's annexation to Nazi Germany, the so-called Anschluss of 1938, is now the subject of very wide-ranging discussions in Austria. The most recent Austrian history, an issue that has until now been often sidestepped, is being reassessed and reexamined.

Yet I have not come across a single article or speech that would deal with the role of Czechoslovakia in the struggle of Austrians against Austro-fascism and Nazism. [passage omitted] Although Czechoslovakia was the first asylum or transit station for many an Austrian democrat, communist or socialist, on his flight from Nazism, the participants in a recent symposium in Vienna on the dark period of Nazism included artists and scientists from many countries, both countries that border and do not border on Austria, but no one from Czechoslovakia.

In my opinion, various speculations of some Austrian politicians riding on the somewhat nostalgic "central European" wave are also connected with this. They speak as though they had not seen the map of Europe for a long time and they identify the concept of central Europe too conspicuously with the former Habsburg monarchy. It is almost as if Vienna were not the venue of the CSCE follow-up meeting, to say nothing of a good climate truly for the whole of Europe. [sentence as published]

Chnoupek Meets With Italy's Andreotti

LD041431 Prague CTK in English
1326 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Geneva Feb 4 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek met here today with his Italian counterpart Giulio Andreotti to exchange views on international topics, especially the development of the all-European process.

Bohuslav Chnoupek on this occasion spoke of a number of peace initiatives as regards a comprehensive system of international peace and security.

The two ministers also dealt with bilateral issues, including the political dialogue, economic cooperation and cultural relations.

Chnoupek Meets With Indonesian Couterpart

LD041150 Prague CTK in English
1110 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Geneva Feb 4 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek met here Wednesday with his Indonesian counterpart Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja.

He informed him of the results of the October 1987 session of the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers Committee in Prague, especially of the document on increasing the effectiveness of the disarmament conference in Geneva adopted by the session.

The two foreign ministers also exchanged views on international topics and bilateral relations.

Polednick Addresses National Front Session

LD032139 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
1730 GMT 3 Feb 88

["Part" of the speech delivered by CPCZ Central Committee Secretary Jindrich Polednik to a joint session of the Central Committees of the CSSR, Czech SR, and Slovak SR National Fronts on 3 February in Prague—recorded]

[Text] Above all it is important that the National Front become a base which Communists, non-party members, and members of other political parties will use in deciding how to develop society and satisfy the needs of people in the localities, districts, regions, and in our whole state and will effectively join forces with to implement the adopted resolutions. To attain these aims we must make sure that important decisions of the state bodies which concern the interests of working people are discussed at all levels prior to their endorsement by the relevant bodies of the National Front, its members and interested organizations. It is necessary to provide to the National Front political parties, and organizations associated with the National Front with broad authority to implement the necessary proposals and initiatives leading to settling individual issues, including legislative issues. Cooperation should develop as much as possible between bodies and organizations of the National Front and national committees of all levels in discussing affairs that concern and influence the life of citizens.

We want to organize public discussions on the platform of the National Front. We must get to know much better the views of the people and lean more upon their views and experience. This not only concerns affairs of national importance. It is equally important to tackle issues in towns and villages such as the construction program, land development, guaranteeing services, health care, and advancing culture and physical education.

The second, inseparable part of the growing role of the National Front, of mass and interest organizations, is the active and selfless participation of people in the implementation of the policy, in introducing the adopted conclusions to life. The main and key task is to safeguard the tasks of economic advancement, to fulfill the main tasks of the advancement of the 5-year plan, to speed up the national economy and scientific-technical progress. National Front organizations are facing an important task in developing purposeful and fruitful initiative in work in enterprises and localities.

Special attention must also be given to the sphere of social policy, care for everyday needs, including the working environment. As the Party Central Committee has emphasized, the struggle for healthy ethics in society forms an inseparable part of restructuring; and the organizations of the National Front can do a lot for this: they can create a social climate in which honest and responsible work will be respected everywhere and in which the principles of social justice and socialist morality will be honored; in which a firm struggle is waged against negative phenomena that are foreign to socialism.

Minister Valek Discusses Church Problems

AU031528 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 2 Feb 88 p 2

[CTK report in the "Per Teletype, Mail, Telephone-..."column]

[Text] Miroslav Valek, minister of culture of the Slovak SR, received representatives of Catholic and non-Catholic churches and religious organizations in Bratislava on Monday [1 February]. In a talk, which was held in an atmosphere of mutual understanding, the participants in the meeting exchanged views on some issues of church policy in Slovakia. They discussed, in particular, the existing problems and the possibilities of resolving them. The meeting was attended by Vincent Macovsky, deputy minister director of the Slovak SR Secretariat for Religious Affairs.

List of Food Items in Short Supply

AU031842 Bratislava ROLNICKE NOVINY in Slovak 1 Feb 88 pp 1,2

["len"-signed report: "United Forces Are Capable of More"]

[Excerpts] Bratislava—During the Seventh 5-Year Plan officials of the Ministry of Trade [of the Slovak SR], in cooperation with manufacturing organizations, began to programmatically tackle the shortage of some products on our market. Of the monitored food items previously unavailable in sufficient amounts in our stores, food producers in the Slovak SR only failed to meet the increased demand for cakes and biscuits that keep for a long time and for fish fillets. The supplies of cheese, fruit-based baby food, non-chocolate candy, and candles, on the other hand, substantially improved.

However, demand continues to grow and the Ministry of Trade of the Slovak SR thus submitted for 1988 another list of food products, the demand for which producers are unable to satisfy. In talks that followed the presentation of the list it was possible to find a solution by increasing the production of some of these products, particularly brand name alcoholic beverages, oat flakes, chocolate, canned fruit, sterilized vegetables, pickles, and fruit juices and juice concentrates. However, there are products such as lady fingers or waffles, cube sugar, long-life milk, meat cuts, guts, some products for diabetics, and detergents, which are a hard nut to crack for food manufacturers in the Slovak SR, not because they are unable to make them but because they are short of machinery, packaging material, or some raw materials, especially if these have to be imported.

There is no doubt that we would like to have in our stores the whole range of food products. Yet in assessing the situation one cannot ignore the fact that the entire sector of agriculture and food in the Slovak SR avails itself in the current 5-year plan of an annual hard currency limit of Kcs65 to Kcs70 million. But a no-frills new production line for cube sugar alone costs some Kcs70 million. It is thus obvious that one cannot disregard everything else just because the consumer, who can get icing sugar, granulated sugar, and the somewhat more expensive mocca sugar, demands cube sugar as well. That is why, instead [of purchasing a new production line for cube sugar], the decision was made to appropriate Kcs15 million to import spare parts for the general overhaul of the older production line in Dunajska Streda, which is now out of operation. Because these parts will be imported by means of a returnable foreign currency credit, one cannot expect any improvement in cube sugar supplies before the end of the current 5-year plan.

Similar problems, caused by lack of foreign currency funds, also account for the shortage of fillet of fish, sausages, long-life milk, lady fingers, or tooth paste. Most of these products will appear on our market in greater amounts only toward the end of the 5-year plan. [passage omitted]

For a relatively long time now, there has also been a shortage of products for diabetics, which is primarily a result of the shortage of artificial sweeteners. The completion of the sorbit plant in the Moravian Chemical Works in Ostrava should put a full stop behind this grievous problem. However, because this plant will not be completed before the end of the Ninth 5-Year Plan, the sector of agriculture and food of the Slovak SR is looking for alternative ways of bridging so long a period.

The reasons for food products being in short supply are manifold, and their origins vary. However, in the interest of the consumers it is necessary for several partners to pool their resources and to look for new ways of overcoming some obstacles.

Release of Dissidents Now in Doubt

AU050806 Paris AFP in English
0558 GMT 5 Feb 88

[Text] Berlin, Feb 5 (AFP)—Statements made by dissident singer Stefan Krawczyk that the East Berlin authorities had forced him into exile have jeopardized the release of other East German dissidents, church leaders and a lawyer said here late Thursday.

Mr Krawczyk's comments "took the carpet from under our feet," said East Berlin Evangelical leader Manfred Stolpe.

And East German lawyer Wolfgang Vogel, who specializes in spy swaps and delicate negotiations between Bonn and East Berlin, told AFP that he had decided to give up his "mandate" to negotiate the release of the dissidents.

Protestant Church leaders involved in the release negotiations said Mr Krawczyk's comments were unhelpful.

When he arrived in West Germany Tuesday, Mr Krawczyk, 32, said East German authorities had forced him into exile by making him choose between a prison term of up to 12 years for high treason and immediate expulsion.

He was among around 100 people arrested for attempting to gatecrash an official ceremony on January 17. More than 60 of the arrested had previously asked permission to emigrate and were swiftly expelled to West Germany.

At least 19 of the arrested were still in detention Thursday although their release had been announced as imminent earlier this week by both church leaders and Mr Vogel.

Meanwhile, at a meeting Thursday evening in East Berlin's Gethsemani Church, attended by around 3,000 people, divisions appeared among dissidents.

Some criticized Mr Krawczyk's decision to leave rather than fight for reform from within, while others stressed they also simply wanted to go.

"The church isn't an emigration agency," a cleric said bitterly, but he promised that the church would set up an information bureau for those wishing to leave.

Also Thursday, more than 250 dissidents from Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union called for the release of those still detained in East Germany, including five who face charges of "high treason."

The signatories of the demand, made in a letter to the East German authorites, included 23 members of Charter 77, the Czechoslovak human rights group, and 78 Poles, among them activists of the banned Solidarity trade union.

The letter, a copy of which was received by AFP in Paris, notably asked for the release of Bardel Bohley, Lotte and Wolfgang Templin, Ralf Hirsch and Werner Fischer, arrested during the January 17 demonstration.

FRG's Lambsdorff's Activities During Visit

Holds Talks With Honecker

LD041418 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1244 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Berlin 4 Feb (ADN)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, today received Graf Lambsdorff, member of the FDP Presidium, at the latter's request, in the Council of State Building for a talk.

The meeting took place in a businesslike and frank atmosphere.

Erich Honecker said that world politics have started to move. Despite serious efforts by the oppositionists, the trend is toward disarmament and the reduction of tension. No one can be blind to the fact that in the nuclear age the safeguarding of peace is mankind's most important task.

The partners in the talk praised the results of the meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan. There was an opportunity to bring about a turning point in international relations. The signing of the treaty on the elimination of the nuclear intermediate-range missiles is a historic milestone.

Erich Honecker stressed that the GDR will do everything possible for the implementation of the treaty. He said that in accordance with an agreement with the USSR the shorter-range INF missiles stationed on GDR territory would be dismantled soon, earlier than originally envisaged. This is a sign of our serious desire to contribute to disarmament and detente. ompensation for the elimination of intermediate-range missiles by a new arms buildup and modernization in other spheres must not be allowed. Such endeavors must be resolutely opposed.

There was agreement that the first step toward disarmament must be followed by others. At the forefront are the 50 percent reduction in strategic offensive weapons with strict observance of the ABM Treaty, a ban on chemical weapons and nuclear tests, and, not least, serious measures toward conventional disarmament.

Erich Honecker stressed that it is now necessary to achieve agreement in Vienna on a mandate for negotiations on conventional disarmament from the Atlantic to the Urals and on the basis of this to set conventional disarmament in motion. Touching on the question of tactical nuclear weapons, Erich Honecker stressed that this issue affects the interests of both the GDR and the FRG to a particular degree. The GDR favors the reduction and finally the elimination of these weapons in order to make the two German states nuclear free.

Erich Honecker pointed to his letter of 14 December 1987 to Federal Chancellor Kohl in which he begins from the position that the two German states must play an active role in disarmament and detente. This accords with their special responsibility for peace, and also with their own best interests.

Otto Graf Lambsdorff referred to Erich Honecker's official visit to the FRG in September 1987 as an outstanding contribution to dialogue and to the development of relations. He spoke in favor of developing them on the basis of the system of treaties and its extension.

Erich Honecker pointed to the responsibility of the two German states, reaffirmed in the joint communique on the visit, to do everything possible so that never again would war, only peace, emanate from German soil. The GDR will, taking as its starting point the results of the visit, continue its policy toward the FRG based on the safeguarding of peace and businesslike cooperation. Important here is a constructive atmosphere and respect for noninterference and mutual interests. The partners in the talk agreed that the stable and dynamic development of economic and trade relations between the GDR and the FRG is an important factor toward the expansion of overall relations.

Taking part in the talk were: State Secretary Frank-Joachim Herrmann, head of the Chancery of the Council of State Chairman; Karl Seidel, direct of the West Germany Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Dr Hans Otto Braeutigam, head of the FRG permanent mission.

Holds News Conference

LD041852 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1519 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Berlin, 4 Feb (ADN)—There was agreement on issues related to the securing of peace and disarmament, Otto Graf Lambsdorff said today at a news conference after his meeting with Erich Honecker in the FRG permanent mission.

The general secretary made it clear that he saw the question of peace policy, of disarmament, and of arms control as the paramount issue taking precedence over all others. The progress achieved last year in the sphere of disarmament was remarkable and gratifying, both sides noted.

Another topic of the talk, which lasted twice as long as planned, was cooperation between the FRG and the GDR in various fields. Referring to his first meeting with Erich Honecker at Lake Werbellin, he said there was agreement that since then there had been a great deal of progress and that things had been achieved that would hardly have been thought possible at that time, or not possible at all.

General Secretary Honecker showed him a very precise list of the numbers of visitors in 1987, both of people of retirement age and younger. The GDR leadership also regards this as a notable development, that should be continued.

Erich Honecker explicitly added: "We want to come together and to learn how to come together, given the clear differences of the systems, of social orders, and allegiances of the FRG on the one side and the GDR on the other." He thought this was an interesting way of putting it, Graf Lambsdorff said.

Just like the FRG and its government surely does, the GDR also attaches great importance to the implementation of what is contained in the communique on Erich Honecker's visit to the FRG, the FDP politician went on to say. He was a little surprised at how much emphasis, almost priority, General Secretary Honecker put on the fact that the subject of the Elbe border, which has been discussed and negotiated for years, should now be conclusively cleared up and settled.

During the meeting, events of recent weeks were also discussed. Starting from differing evaluations of these events, the general secretary made it clear that there had been a conscious and deliberate disruption of a traditional demonstration, which for the GDR represented a violation of the law. The laws of the GDR exist, they must be observed, and if necessary also applied. The general secretary repeatedly stressed that this is not a matter of people with dissenting views, but of violations of the law, and that the GDR is conducting and will continue to conduct a dialogue with the young.

Otto Graf Lambsdorff went on to answer journalists' questions on the positions of the two German states in the struggle for disarmament. He said that there was agreement on their assessment of the agreement on intermediate-range missiles, on the hope that there will be a 50 percent reduction in the strategic field, on the desire for a worldwide ban on the production, storage, and use of chemical weapons, and on the desire for a clear reduction in conventional forces. There was disagreement on the issue of a third zero option, whether there should be one now, or whether there should be one at all.

More on FRG Reported Use of Journalists as Spies

AU041412 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 3 Feb 88 p 2

[N.N. commentary: "Journalists on the Payroll of FRG Intelligence Services"]

[Text] The slander campaign and the distorted reports about measures and events in the GDR by individual journalists in the FRG's mass media prompted Hans-Joachim Adam, former inspector in the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution, who defected to the GDR last year, to address the public and comment on these events.

As a departmental head in the Bavarian branch of the Office for the Protection of the Constitution who inspected the files of members of the "public services", Adam gained an insight into the cooperation between FRG intelligence services and individual FRG journalists. His 10 years of experience and knowledge of the Office for the Protection of the Constitution show that this FRG intelligence service has neglected its actual and publicly much-hackneyed task of protecting the Constitution of the FRG and, apart from the surveillance of progressive forces in the FRG, has worked actively with the Federal Intelligence Service, BND, on interference in the internal affairs of the socialist countries, with the GDR as a prime target.

Adam's knowledge has recently been confirmed in a number of ways. The most recent statements by the head of the Lower Saxony branch of the Office for the Protection of the Constitution, Bautsch, and by West Berlin Senator for Internal Affairs Kewening are only one example.

Referring to the good results of cooperation, Bautsch even appealed to the journalists to work with his office more intensively in the future. Even more journalists than previously should supply their information to the office. Senator for Internal Affairs, Kewening, who is responsible for the West Berlin branch of the Office for the Protection of the Constitution, considers offers of cooperation to journalists to be "completely legitimate."

He does not want to reveal any details about what the Office for the Protection of the Constitution does and what successes it scores. This is nothing that should be openly discussed, he stated. This does not necessarily require an explanation by him, because such "secrets" are also known to others. The same applies to the statement by the senator for internal affairs. "You pay money for everything, otherwise you get nothing." Secrets are known to other persons as well. According to Hans-Joachim Adam, these statements are fully in line with the principles of the head of the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution, Boeden. Renowned journalist working for FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE, SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG, and DIE WELT are regular visitors to the BND headquarters in Pullach.

Renowned FRG journalist Manfred Bissinger, who worked for DPA, Norddeutscher Rundfunk, and as deputy editor in chief for the STERN newsmagazine, knows of such practices by the FRG intelligence services. As coauthor of the book "At Your Secret Service" ["Unheimlish Zu Diensten"] he discloses three methods of cooperation, of work hand-in-hand between FRG intelligence services and the mass media.

First: contractually stipulated, highly paid services of individual correspondents for the intelligence services, primarily in East European countries.

Second: occasional cooperation by editors, who usually receive fake journalistic assignments by cover firms belonging to the intelligence services.

Third: joint work through so-called "agents of influence" who plant reports in the press, as demanded by the intelligence services.

As is known to the competent GDR organs—to avoid misinterpretations and speculation, their knowledge is not based on Adam's information—this also applies to practices that run counter to the policy of dialogue and understanding, used by correspondents against the GDR.

With the aim in mind of creating an internal opposition in the GDR, some journalists hired by the FRG's intelligence services play an important role in finding suitable persons in our country, in supporting them and equipping them with the required means, in instructing them ideologically, and—as the saying goes—in "shaping" them and instigating them to carry out actions against the socialist state.

In this the intelligence services and other antisocialist forces deliberately misuse Western journalists accredited in the GDR and the generous working conditions that correspond to international standards. Quite a large number of them are in possession of the border pass [Grenzempfehlung], usually issued to journalists, which exempts them to a large degree from border controls. Provided they are willing, this makes them most suitable, not only for courier services and other information service activities, but also for other purposes, as has been proven in practice.

And it was not just today that those who maintain the connection between the organizers of antisocialist actions such as Jahn, Faust, Fuchs, and others—who are controlled by the intelligence services—and representatives of the so-called GDR opposition were revealed. And it is no coincidence that some Western journalists know in time where something is to happen and are always there when certain forces in the GDR try to start some kind of provocation. "Such methods have long been common practice," Hans-Joachim Adam points out.

Is it not high time for such activities, that are directed against dialogue and understanding, to be a thing of the past?! This is not only our opinion. It is also the opinion of the broad public in the FRG, including numerous sincere and honest journalists who take their jobs seriously.

Statement by GDR, FRG Bishops on War

AU041225 Vienna VOLKSSTIMME in German 4 Feb 88 p 4

[Text] Berlin—In a joint declaration on the occasion of the anniversary of Russia's Christianization, the Protestant Churches in the FRG and the Federation of Evangelical Churches in the GDR warned of forgetting "war, its roots, and consequences."

The bishops Martin Kruse (FRG) and Werner Leich (GDR) write: "Many are of the opinion that we should finally keep silent and forget. However, memories are unavoidable. The past always catches up with us. Therefore, we are remembering, so that we understand others and ourselves better, and that the terrible things do not happen again."

The men of the church state: "It remains true: Germany started the war against the Soviet Union as a war of conquest and waged it as a war of destruction. It was planned to eliminate the Soviet Union as a state. Presumption and racial mania struck its citizens. The fate of serving the conquerors as slaves was intended for them. Entire groups of people were systematically murdered."

It is further said: "Until that time, the Germans' outrages against the people of the Soviet Union had been inconceivable. We are all burdened with the liability for the consequences of their actions, although opposition was dangerous to one's life at that time and today most of us do not have to feel personally guilty because of our age or because we had no influence then."

The bishops critically evaluated: "At that time our churches, without exception, kept silent on injustices. They rejected the Soviet Union's system and therefore believed to be entitled to apply other standards. Often, the German actions against the Soviet Union were even approved of." Then the representatives of the Protestant Churches advocated trust and the safeguarding of peace.

Further Reportage on Fischer Visit

Gives Toast at Dinner

LD022230 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2018 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Madrid 2 Feb (ADN)—In his toast, [at dinner hosted by Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez in Madrid on 2 February] GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer paid tribute to the Washington treaty on the elimination of Soviet and U.S. intermediate-range missiles. With goodwill and readiness to compromise practical steps for reducing confrontation can be taken and the necessary trust can be created.

Oskar Fischer agreed with the opinion of Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez that this first nuclear disarmament agreement must open up the road to achieving a more secure world. He pointed to Erich Honecker's demand to make 1988 the year for a real start to disarmament and said that the agreement between the GDR, the CSSR, and the Soviet Union to dismantle the shorter-range missiles stationed on their territories after 1983, even before the Soviet-U.S. treaty came into force, also served this goal. This was a new, encouraging example. We must not stand still now, he said.

As well as the ratification and implementation of the Washington agreement, the halving of the strategic offensive weapons potential with strict observance of the ABM Treaty, further nuclear and a radical conventional disarmament and a worldwide ban on chemical weapons are on the agenda. The GDR now sees a great chance of getting away forever from the arms race to real disarmament and to an improvement of the international situation, he said.

The nuclear-free corridor proposed by the GDR with the CSSR, and a chemical-free zone in central Europe would now gain even mroe in topicality. The creation of the corridor could considerably improve the security policy situation in Europe. The proposal also envisages, in addition to the withdrawal of the tactical nuclear weapons, removal of the dual application carrier systems—conventional and nuclear—and thus a real moving apart of important weapons types. This would prepare a good path for trust and for international cooperation.

Oskar Fischer supported analogous initiatives in other regions. Existing imbalances and asymmetries must be eliminated through disarmament. Armed forces and armaments must be sufficient solely for defense. Non-offensive capability must be the aim. A mandate for negotiations on the reduction of armed forces and armaments from the Atlantic to the Urals is expected of the Vienna CSCE follow-up meeting. This would be an effective contribution to a tension-free Europe.

Oskar Fischer stated with satisfaction that relations between the GDR and Spain have developed steadily over the past few years. What has been achieved so far encourages us to continue to advance on the path embarked upon and to tackle new things, he stressed. The GDR attaches great importance to the constructive dialogue with Spain. The talks conducted by Foreign Trade Minister Beil in Madrid recently opened up new perspectives for economic and trade relations, which are developing in a productive manner.

The treaties and agreements concluded between the GDR and Spain are proving themselves as a solid foundation for cooperation. Oskar Fischer referred to the cultural exchanges on the basis of the cultural agreement signed almost 10 years ago. As a whole it could be said that relations between the two states are having a favorable influence on the climate in Europe, Oskar Fischer said. They have proved themselves as a factor for stability and predictability. I am certain that we will be able, on the basis of mutual respect and through joint efforts, to do much that is useful for the benefit of the citizens of our countries and for the cause of world peace, the most precious asset of mankind, as King Juan Carlos so aptly put it recently.

Fernandez-Ordonez' Toast

LD022343 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2033 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Madrid 2 Feb ADN—In his toast at a dinner for Oskar Fischer the Spanish foreign minister said that he still recalls with pleasure the warm hospitality he received during his visit to the GDR 2 years ago. Referring to the summit meeting between Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev in Geneva, he said that what was just a hope is now reality. From pure disarmament talks the first concrete agreement on the elimination of medium-range missiles has come about, and from the Stockholm meeting, not yet ended, have come, among other things, important confidence-building measures, in particular the needed impetus for the continuation of the CSCE process. Today, Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez stated, one is no longer satisfied if a day passes without another step toward better understanding, deeper trust, and greater detente.

The Spanish foreign minister expressed his conviction that it will be possible in the near future to achieve the halving of the strategic nuclear weapons arsenals of the superpowers and the global elimination of chemical weapons, as well as an agreement on a lower level of conventional systems, whose balance would permit a reduction of the U.S. and Soviet shorter-range missiles stationed on European territory. The GDR and Spain, each within the alliances to which they belong, have made their contribution to the promotion of disarmament and, thus, to detente. In this respect one can be satisfied.

One can also be satisfied with the development of bilateral relations, said the foreign minister. For, although the scope and intensity of the latter is still insufficient from the point of view of the possibilities of the two countries, they are nevertheless on the right path for bringing them to a level that befits two European countries with important trade and cultural traditions.

On the basis of the complementary characteristics of the two economies, the GDR is one of the most promising trade partners of the CEMA countries for Spain, said the foreign minister. The same applies to cultural cooperation. An example of this, the "Berlin Today" exhibition, is a great success. This cooperation, which also extends to the spheres of technology and sports—where the GDR is an acknowledged force—will moreover find expression in the GDR's participation in the world exhibition in Seville and the Olympics in Barcelona. GDR-Spanish relations are capable of being comprehensively shaped in all spheres, and Spain's efforts will be channeled in that direction, said Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez.

The Spanish foreign minister spoke out in favor of a permanent order in Europe, in which all people can enjoy their rights and freedom, the advantages of peace and reciprocal communication. As long as the striving to pave the way toward trust and friendship prevails, existing differences can even enrich international life.

UN Economic Commission Official Pays Visit

Received by Fischer

LD041754 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1333 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Berlin, 4 Feb (ADN)—GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer received Dr Gerald Hinteregger, executive secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Europe [ECE], in Berlin on Thursday for a talk.

He explained to the guest GDR's policy on the implementation of the program of the Warsaw Pact states, which is aimed at the strenghening of peace and international security. Oskar Fischer noted that the encouraging results of the Soviet-U.S. summit in Washington created a favorable atmosphere, which must be exploited for the further shaping of economic scientific and technological cooperation. The ECE, as an important part of the joint European home could do a great deal to contribute to greater mutual trust and stability on the continent.

The GDR will continue to advocate the strengthening of the ECE as a forum of mutually advantageous cooperation and dialogue, as well as an even fuller exploration of its great potential.

Oskar Fischer and Dr Gerald Hinteregger agreed that today more than ever the United Nations, faithful to its aim of preserving future generations from the scourge of war, has to face up to the challenges of the time.

State Secretary Dr Herbert Krolikowski, first deputy minister of foreign affairs, gave a banquet in honor of the ECE executive secretary. It was attended by Dr Hans Reichelt, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Environmental Protection and Water Conservancy, Bruno Lietz, minister of agriculture, forestry and food stuffs, and other GDR public figures. The Austrian ambassador to the GDR, Dr Franz Wunderbaldinger, was also present.

Holds Talks With Krolikowski

LD041832 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1648 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Berlin, 4 Feb (ADN)—Werner Krolikowski, first deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers and member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, received Dr Gerald Hinteregger, executive secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), who is in the GDR at the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for an official talk in Berlin today. The talk focused on questions of the current international situation and the role of the commission in developing a climate of trust and cooperation on the continent of Europe.

Werner Krolikowski praised the ECE's work in promoting East-West economic cooperation. High recognition was accorded to its contribution to putting CSCE decisions in the spheres of industry, science, and technology and also environmental protection into practical action. He pointed to the present favorable conditions for the development of fruitful and active East-West dialogue. In this connection he stressed the joint initiatives of the socialist states for the creation of a comprehensive system of world peace and international security and for the elaboration of a concept for international economic security.

Touching on the GDR's collaboration in the ECE, Werner Krolikowski stressed interest in the expansion of mutually advantaegous cooperation among member states. He reaffirmed the GDR's readiness to continue to support the ECE's efforts to develop international economic relations for the benefit of the peoples. Dr Hinteregger emphasized the GDR's work, full of initiatives, for constructive East-West cooperation in Europe. In particular he paid tribute to the active work of the GDR's representatives in ECE bodies, which have contributed considerably to the fulfilling of the commission's tasks.

The interlocutors expressed the hope that the forthcoming 43d plenum of the ECE would open up fresh possibilities for stabilization and promotion of multilateral all-European cooperation.

The talk was attended by the current president of the ECE, Ambassador Dr Peter Dietze.

Sindermann Holds Talks With Danish Officials

LD011456 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1351 GMT 1 Feb 88

[text] Berlin, 1 Feb (ADN)—Horst Sindermann, president of the GDR People's Chamber and member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, today received a delegation of the Folketing of the Kingdom of Denmark headed by its chairman, Svend Jakobsen.

The talk at the house of the highest representative body of the people focused on the fight of the parliamentarians for peace and disarmament. The exchange of views was attended by members of the People's Chamber Presidium.

Earlier, the deputation consisting of members of the Social Democratic Party, the Conservative People's Party, the Socialist People's Party, the Liberal Party, and the Social-Liberal Party, remembered the victims of fascism and militarism by the laying of a wreath at the Unter den Linden memorial.

The guests arrived this morning at Berlin-Schoenefeld airport for a several-day official visit to the GDR. They will be visiting the capital and the Cottbus and Dresden Bezirks.

More on Talks

LD020012 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1719 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Berlin 1 Feb (ADN)—Horst Sindermann, president of the GDR People's Chamber and member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, received a delegation from the Kingdom of Denmark Folketing, headed by its chairman Svend Jakobsen (Social Democratic Party), in Berlin this afternoon. The deleagtion arrived in the GDR on an official visit today. The Danish parliament chairman is accompanied by the deputy chairmen Knud Ostergaard (Conservative People's Party), and Lilli Gyldenkilde (Socialist People's Party), Poul Brondsted (Liberal Party) and Ole Vig Jensen (Social-Liberal Party).

The People's Chamber president briefed the guests thoroughly on the economic strategy of the 11th SED Congress, which is directed toward the continuation of the unity of economic and social policy. Using the example of the elaboration and implementation of the national economic plan, the law on local representative bodies, the labor law code and the youth law, Horst Sindermann explained the activities of the deputies of the parliamentary groups, the committees and their working groups. Questions of the education and upbinging of youth to further raise their share in the intensification of the national economy were given particular attention.

The president then replied to questions from the Danish parliamentarians. During the talks, which took place in a frank atmosphere, there was agreement in stressing the high responsibility of the parliaments for actively and constructively influencing the process of safeguarding peace. "We parliamentarians must help to furnish the European house in such a way as to install in it everything that the noble thoughts of humanism offer for this and which has been brought into the treasure house of world culture," the GDR People's Chamber president said. This also includes the Baltic, which can be the "sea

of peace" forever if the countries bordering on it, including those with different social systems, shape their relations in the spirit of peaceful neighborliness, mutual trust and cooperative collaboration.

The two parliamentary presidents spoke in this connection in favor of a further intensification of relations between the GDR and Denmark. Horst Sindermann said that the GDR endorses the activities of the North European Politicians for a Nuclear Weapons-Free Northern Europe. It therefore strongly supports Mikhail Gorbachev's proposals in Murmansk for guaranteeing security and cooperation in the northern maritime regions and the Baltic.

Svend Jakobsen spoke about the structure and modus operandi of the Danish parliament. He agreed with the GDR parliamentarians that the hopeful results of the Washington summit meeting have made possible much in the way of a new, progressive East-West relationship. The visit by his delegation at this time is, therefore, a direct contribution to the improvement and trust in relations between the countries and their peoples in the Baltic region.

Earlier, the delegation remembered the victims of fascism and militarism with a wreath-laying at the Unter den Linden memorial.

Government Supports Lao Cease-Fire Proposal

AU031011 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 2 Feb 88 p 2

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—The GDR supports the proposal made by the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the Government of Thailand to immediately cease fighting and to start negotiations on a peaceful settlement of the border conflict. This was stated by Ambassador Wolfgang Meyer, spokesman of the GDR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in Berlin on Monday [1 February]. Such conflicts can only create additional tensions in southeast Asia.

Loyal to its course of constructive dialogue and understanding, the GDR considers it necessary to settle all contentious issues in international relations in a peaceful and lasting way by means of negotiations.

Marjai Returns From Moscow CEMA Session

LD041500 Budapest MTI in English
1458 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Budapest, February 4 (MTI)—Jozsef Marjai,deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and permanent Hungarian representative to the CMEA, returned to Budapest from Moscow Thursday. Jozsef Marjai attended the 126th session of the Executive Committee of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.

Jozsef Marjai was met at Ferihegy Airport by Boris Stukalin, ambassador of the Soviet Union to Hungary.

Halmos Returns From Cema Ministers Meeting

AU041541 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian
30 Jan p 4

[Text] Csaba Halmos, state secretary and chairman of the State Office for Wages and Labor, returned on 29 January from Moscow where he participated in a meeting of CEMA labor ministers.

Italian Communist Youth Deligation Visits

AU042033 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian
30 Jan p 4

[Text] A delegation of the Italian Communist Youth Federation led by General Secretary Pietro Folena visited Hungary between 25-29 January. The delegation held talks with Csaba Hamori, first secretary of KISZ, in which they reviewed the possibilities for further developing the relations between the two youth organizations and topical issues of the international youth movement. The delegation was received by Geza Kotai, director of the MSZMP International Relations Department; Sandor Nagy, secretary of the National Trade Union Council; Miklos Barabas, secretary general of the National Peace Council; and Laszlo Varga-Sabjan, deputy chairman of the State Office for Youth and Sports Affairs.

'New Thinking' on Demonstrators Viewed

LD041719 Budapest in English to Europe
2100 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] [Announcer] Now from the newsroom, an analysis of some aspects of tolerance in the light of recent events in some socialist countries.

[Commentator] It has made international news that in Berlin, people thinking differently and detained in the middle of January, have been released. This manifestation of tolerance has understandably evoked a positive response. Tolerance, which in many cases should also include a smaller [word indistinct] degree of disregarding the rules of the game and regulations is an indispensable precondition of social pluralism, and the debate and coordination of different values [words indistinct].

In Hungary and several other socialist countries there is a broad agreement on the need for that, but it is not easy at all to meet this demand, especially for societies where, in the course of many years, people became used to a one dimensional view of truth, and believe that opposition is harmful. That we are beginning to leave this concept behind can be seen from the learning process now under way in Hungary, which is also manifested in the fact that solutions are sought for complicated problems, and tolerance is showed toward phenomena that are perhaps understandable but cannot be regarded as useful. For example, last Monday a few hundred people staged a silent demonstration in front of the Romanian Embassy in Budapest. There are fairly well-known differences of views with the Romanian Government. But it is also well-known that these differences cannot be resolved through demonstrations. Strictly speaking, the demonstration was illegal. However, the authorities reacted with persuasion and not with force. Starting out from the fact that the demonstrators' action, motivated by emotion, was incorrect though not completely incomprehensible. At the same time it would be unnecessary and useless to dramatize the extreme sensivity of a small group of people.

Another example, which also concerns a few hundred people, is the issue of conscientious objectors. Until now the government, and indeed most church leaders, have adopted a rather unrelenting attitude. Recently, however, an increasing numbers of officials have argued that the question is not fully resolved and has to be rethought. These examples have one thing in common; that they are part of the efforts to establish a new manner of thinking, a new system of values and growth tolerance.

Deputy Interior Minister Gal Gives Interview

AU041107 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian
30 Jan 88 p 4

[Interview with Deputy Interior Minister Zoltan Gal by Correspondent Laszlo Szabo: " Thinking About the Propositions—The Party and the State Organization"—date and place not given]

[Excerpts] State organization played an important role in the debate on the propositions worked out for the further development of the system of political institutions. A lot is said today about the composition of these organizations, the main rules of their operation, their system party administration, and about strengthening the activity of the people's representation, the administration, and the management. For some weeks Dr Zoltan Gal has been the deputy interior minister in charge of the administration of the local councils and, as head of a sub-department of the Central Committee, he was a member of the group that worked out the aforementioned propositions on the basis of analyses by various work committees.

[Szabo] Party-state relations are particularly delicate under the one-party system. What can we expect from the debate?

[Gal] I think that arranging party-state relations according to the requirements of our age is decisive from the viewpoint of the further development of the entire system of political institutions. These relations determine whether the socialist state is able to fulfill its particular role in the system of political institutions, and here I stress the word particular. These relations also fundamentally affect the relations between the state and the public bodies, and ultimately—and this is perhaps one of the most important consequences—they affect the party's political character and its nature as a movement. [passage omitted]

[Szabo] The point was made that it is justified to work out a new basic law, a new constitution. What is your opinion about this?

[Gal] This is essentially true, but if I told you only that our Constitution has been in force for 39 years, and that 16 years have passed since the last comprehensive change in our Constitution, this would be a general answer. In itself, the time that has passed would justify a general and complete reexamination of our Constitution. But, in my opinion this time, other things are also involved, namely the need for the goals and requirements connected with the reform of the system of political institution—goals and requirements outlined in the aforementioned propositions—to be made a permanent feature of the Constitution. [passage omitted]

[Szabo] The guidance provided by the party to the people's representation bodies is perhaps the most incomplete. How can the party debate assist in this issue?

[Gal] One of the most important elements of the planned changes in party-state relations is precisely the fact that the propositions set out the goal of making sure that, in the future, the party organs fulfill their political guidance tasks decisively, through the communist members of the elected representative bodies. [passage omitted]

[Szabo] The principle of rotation every second term had already emerged previously in the leading bodies of the party. Now, the propositions submitted for debate have also stipulated this requirement for there to be rotation in certain state positions. What role can this play in cadre work?

[Gal] The concept of introducing rotation concerning certain state positions must be connected with the conclusions of the aforementioned propositions referring to the development of cadre work. In this area, among other things, the propositions urge an increase in the democracy and openness of the election of cadres, and that results in their activity and real performance should be the main standards of evaluating the leaders. The propositions also find it necessary to make sure that the justified cadre changes occur on time. The guidelines of cadre work development and also its current problems are expressed primarily in the aforementioned stipulations. [passage omitted]

[Szabo] The importance of public debate to substantiate major government decisions has again come to the fore in the propositions; draft laws have always been submitted for debate, albeit only partially; public debate on important draft laws failed to be held. Now, the aforementioned propositions very firmly demand all these things, including referenda. Why?

[Gal] Since the propositions also deal with this problem in this way, it is justified to mention first the fact that here we are talking about increasing the direct participation of the people which, together with strengthening the system of democracy in government representation and the interest representing role played by the public organizations, aims to serve to deepen socialist democracy.

Public debate on draft laws is one form of direct democracy that has been spreading in recent years. Primarily through its public nature, this form equally serves the political and professional foundation of the draft laws and their acceptance by society. Precisely due to these favorable effects, the propositions urge the further development of the system of public debates intended to lay the foundations of government decisions, for the practice of holding preliminary consultations with the population, and, generally, for publicity in preparing government decisions. [passage omitted]

Hungarian Peace Council Head Briefs Committee

LD041929 Budapest MTI in English
1840 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Budapest, February 4 (MTI)—In recent years the international relations of the Hungarian peace movement and the Hungarian Peace Council were characterised by openness and readiness to discussion through arguments and dialogue, Miklos Barabas, general secretary of the Hungarian Peace Council, said in the Thursday session of the Foreign Affairs Commission of Parliament. As reported earlier, at the session held under the chairmanship of Matyas Szuros the MPs were briefed on the international work of the Hungarian peace movement.

The general secretary emphasized that the Hungarian peace movement is ready to take part in the enrichment of the foreign policy of the country, it strives to play a growing role in making proposals and initiatives. By making more room for the activity of individual people, the movement can play an important role in making the international relations of Hungary more democratic.

In reply to questions, Miklos Barabas explained that, according to the Hungarian evaluation, the current practices of operation of the World Peace Council reflect that the world organization was unable to keep pace in recent years with the developments in the world, they could not integrate the peace movements appearing with independently shaped, new efforts. On its foundation the World Peace Council was almost the single bond between the

East and West. However, since then a wide range of contact-building international organizations were established and the WPC, due to its rigidity, failed to compete with these 'rivals'.

Regarding the relations between the peace movement and the groups of different convictions Miklos Barabas pointed out: The Hungarian Peace Council is not to shy off from substantial debate and sensible dialogue. Starting from the present Hungarian realities it recognizes the justification for all constructive initiatives and makes efforts that the peace movement be the ground for freshly tuned, open debates and the development of political culture.

Miklos Barabas explained: The Hungarian Peace Council plans to publish a book on how the human rights and the rights of national minorities are handled and assured by the legislation of the signatory states of the Helsinki Final Act.

Concluding the debate, Matyas Szuros expressed the recognition of the Foreign Affairs Commission to the Hungarian peace movement which showed evidence with its activity for the ability to renewal and adaptation to the changing environment. The Foreign Affairs Commission continues to provide support by its means to the work of the peace movement.

Finally an MP referring back to the agenda of the last Foreign Affairs Commission session asked what measures had been taken to arrange the situation of those who, arriving in Hungary with valid travel documents, apply for extended residence permission. In his reply Matyas Szuros told that the competent authorities are continuously working on the possible and necessary measures.

Environmental Protection Association Plans

LD050312 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] The Environmental Protection Association, which is being formed, will be made up of several thousand people. This has been announced by Academician (Ferenc Antoni), head of the organizational committee. In a statement to our radio he said that the social association will be working under the aegis of the Patriotic People's Front and added that it is considered important that minority views as well as those of the opposition are allowed to be heard on environmental protection issues.

Leaders' Public Appearances 28 January-3 February

AU051132 [Editorial Report] Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian from 29 January-3 February, MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian of 4 February, and MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian of 30 January report on the public appearances of the following leaders between 28 January and 3 February (source, date, and page number of each report given in parentheses):

Csaba Hamori, member of the MSZMP Politburo and first secretary of KISZ, participated in a session of the KISZ Central Committee at Zanka Pioneer City on 29-30 January. (NEPSZABADSAG, 29 Jan, p 1) He also received a delegation of the Italian Communist Youth Federation headed by General Secretary Pietro Folena that visited Hungary from 25 to 29 January; place and date not given. (MAGYAR NEMZET, 30 Jan, p 4; filed as AU042033) He also received a delegation of the Central Committee of the Komsomol of the USSR, led by Nikolay Dolgushkin; place and date not given. (NEPSZABADSAG, 1 Feb, p 4)

Laszlo Marothy, member of the MSZMP Politburo and minister of environmental protection and water affairs, paid a visit to Vas County on 1-2 February. (NEPSZABADSAG, 3 Feb, p 5)

Miklos Ovari, member of the MSZMP Politburo and secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, paid a visit to Szabolcs-Szatmar County on 28-29 January. (MAGYAR NEMZET, 30 Jan, p 4) He also paid a visit to Budapest's 10th district, Kobanya, on 3 February. (MAGYAR HIRLAP, 4 Feb, p 6)

Matyas Szuros, secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, paid a visit to Hajdu-Bihar County on 28-29 January. (MAGYAR NEMZET, 30 Jan, p 4) He also visited the Budapest headquarters of the World Federation of Democratic Youth on 3 February. (MAGYAR HIRLAP, 4 Feb, p 6)

Janos Lukacs, secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, paid a 2-day visit to Bekes County; date not given. (MAGYAR NEMZET, 30 Jan, p 4) He also visited the Budapest headquarters of the National Peace Council on 3 February. (MAGYAR HIRLAP, 4 Feb, p 6)

Lenard Pal, secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, participated in a general meeting at the Dozsa Producer Cooperative at Szarvas on 29 January. (MAGYAR NEMZET, 30 Jan, p 4) He also participated in the founding session of a scientific and educational society at Szarvas on 29 January. (NEPSZABADSAG, 30 Jan, p 21)

Gyorgy Fejti, secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, participated in a conference of young economists held by the Youth Committee of the Hungarian Economic Society at Salgotarja on 30 January. (NEPSZABADSAG, 1 Feb, p 3)

Walesa, Demonstrators Protest Price Rises

AU050758 Paris AFP in English
0017 GMT 5 Feb 88

[Excerpts] Gdansk, Poland, Feb 4 (AFP)—Several hundred people demonstrated here Thursday against hefty price rises after a church service attended by the leader of the banned Solidarity trade union, Lech Walesa.

Around 10,000 people crammed into the Church of St. Brigitte in the Gdansk shipyards to take part in a service led by the bishop of Gdansk Monsignor Tadeusz Goclowski, an AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE correspondent at the scene said.

At the end of the service, several hundred people gathered on the concourse outside the church shouting "down with the price rises" and "no freedom without Solidarity."

Riot police cordoned off the area and stopped the demonstrators moving out into the surrounding streets.

The AFP correspondent said that several arrests were made before the protestors dispersed peacefully.

In the southwestern city of Wroclaw, meanwhile, riot police and armed guards were posted at three factories, union sources said, as Solidarity called on workers to strike in protest at the price increases.

Solidarity set up strike committees, the sources said, despite strict disciplinary measures by the management, which called in armed guards to patrol the factories.

Discussions continued Thursday between management and official works committees, which on Wednesday rejected a management offer to pay workers a bonus of 3,000 zlotys (eight dollars) a month, in addition to 6,000 zlotys (16 dollars) in government compensation paid to all citizens. [passage omitted]

At the Lenin steelworks in Nowa Huta, near the southern city of Krakow, several thousand of the 40,000 workforce signed a petition claiming a 12,000 zloty (31 dollar) per month cost of living allowance to offset the price rises, double the government's offer.

A union source at the works said the management had not yet responded to the claim, although he said they had tightened disciplinary procedures and called in plainclothes policemen to stand guard outside the management block, checking everyone going in and out.

Similar petitions have been handed in at the Ursus tractor plant near Warsaw, which employs 10,000 people.

A union organiser on the committee co-ordinating petitions, Krzysztof Wroblewski, was given a warning by political police.

In Gdansk oil refinery managers have agreed to pay the 1,500 workers a 4,500 zloty (12 dollar) a month cost of living allowance, with the promise of a further 1,500 zlotys a month to come, a reliable source said.

Authorities Arrest Dissidents in Wroclaw

LD051520 Hamburg DPA in German
1440 GMT 5 Feb 88

[Text] Warsaw, (DPA)—At least three dissidents have been arrested in a private apartment in Wroclaw. It was learned from dissident circles on Friday that they include the leading members of the illegal "Polish Socialist Party", Zuzanna Dabrowska and Piotr Ikonowicz, and a founding member of the banned trade union Solidarity at the "Hydral" engineering enterprise, Grzegorz Majewski.

The dissidents met on Thursday evening to discuss the situation following the prices rises which were announced in Poland last Monday. Hundreds of people demonstrated against the new prices after a mass at St Bridget's Church in Gdansk on Thursday. Small demonstrations also took place in Warsaw and Nowa Huta near Krakow because of the price increases.

Further Reports on Whitehead Activities

AU051057 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish
3 Feb 88 p 2

["Polish-American Economic and Trade Cooperation: Meetings by the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State"—PAP headline]

[Text] On Tuesday 2 February U.S. Assistant Secretary of State John C. Whitehead was received by Sejm Marshal Roman Malinowski. Expressing satisfaction with the energetic participation of the Sejm and U.S. Congress in the process of normalizing and improving relations between both states, they pointed to further possibilities of intensifying relations between the two parliaments. R. Malinowski informed the guest about the status of the Sejm idea of holding a Warsaw meeting of heads of parliament from signatory countries of the CSCE Final Act.

On the same day, C. Whitehead [as published] held talks with Deputy Premier Zdzislaw Sadowski, chairman of the Council of Ministers' Planning Commission; Jerzy Bilip, minister of industry; and Andrzej Wojcik, undersecretary of state in the Ministry of Foreign Economic Cooperation.

In the light of the approaching meeting of the joint Polish-American trade commission, there was a comprehensive discussion about economic cooperation between the PPR and United States. Particular attention was drawn to the possibilities of a broader involvement by American firms in the pro-export modernization of

selected branches of Polish industry and of joint production undertakings involving foreign capital. In addition, they discussed a series of issues whose solution would permit an expansion of Polish-American economic and trade cooperation.

The American guest was informed at length about various aspects of Poland's economic situation, including topics connected with the second stage of the economic reform.

An Agreement on Air Traffic [subhead]

The development of air traffic between Poland and the United States is one of the chief purposes of a new civil aviation agreement concluded by Tadeusz Olechowski, deputy minister of foreign affairs; and John C. Whitehead, U.S. assistant secretary of state, on 1 February. Initialled in Washington last year, this new agreement replaces the present 3-year agreement concluded in 1985.

In order to stabilize air links between the two countries, the new agreement is valid indefinitely. It gives PAN AM the right to operate regular flights to Warsaw and Krakow, and LOT Polish Airlines the right to operate such flights to New York and one other American city chosen by LOT. It was agreed that PAN AM would spend more of its zloty receipts in Poland and transfer less of this income to the United States in the form of convertible currency.

Both carriers will serve routes between Poland and the United States, which means that LOT and PANAM are to act independently according to the principles of full competition. It is believed that this will keep fares down and improve passenger service.

Therefore, the agreement creates a chance to increase the number of Atlantic flights from Poland to the United States, and vice versa. From the point of view of our interests, it would be better if there were more American passengers than in the past. So far, most of the passengers have been residents of our country. Such a proportion is not favorable for our foreign currency balance of payments.

Comment on Press Conference

LD041345 Warsaw PAP in English
1308 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Warsaw, Feb. 4—"The opening statement delivered by U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John C. Whitehead at Wednesday's press conference which closed his visit to Poland contained little courtesy but many honest assessments going beyond Washington's hitherto practice of slowly improving the relations with our country," TRYBUNA LUDU wrote today in a commentary on the visit and went on to say:

"Whitehead, while praising the course of talks with representatives of the Polish authorities, went farther than Polish newsmen could have expected and than the hitherto policy of the U.S. Administration would have indicated. He said that the developments in Poland and Polish-American bilateral dialogue made him postulate the raising of the mutual relations to a higher level than the present one providing for step-by-step moves.

"The U.S. deputy secretary of state made a significant change in the interpretation of the Reagan doctrine of differentiating the socialist states according to the Washington criteria of independence and democracy. Namely, he left it to every country to have the right to make its own assessements and declared (readiness) to develop cooperation in the name of consolidating the common supreme values: security, armaments reduction, and expansion of economic and other relations.

"The American guest noted favourable changes which have taken place in Poland after his first visit one year ago. He gave the room a hint that it was not courtesy but a matter-of-fact opinion by a politician who does not waste words.

"The time will show whether the honesty of a pragmatist that Whitehead is considered to be in Poland contributes to the enrichment of our mutual relations. Let us hope so," the paper concluded.

Diplomat Reportedly Defects to Sweden

AU041414 Paris AFP in English
1409 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Stockholm, Feb 4 (AFP)—A Polish Embassy official and his family have defected and asked to stay in Sweden, the AFTONBLADET daily reported on Thursday.

The defection of the cultural attache, if confirmed, would be the second by a Polish diplomat posted in Sweden in two weeks.

The report said Marek Lewicki, acompanied by his wife and their five-year-old son, went to police on Wednesday afternoon and asked to be allowed stay to in Sweden.

The diplomat also asked for "police protection," for the family, AFTONBLADET said, without citing sources.

Swedish authorities declined to comment on the report. On January 21, Polish Vice-Consul Witold Grabiec and his family requested political asylum in Sweden.

Stockholm Reports Defection

LD041607 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish
1545 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] One more Polish diplomat has defected in Sweden and asked for political asylum. The second secretary at the Polish Embassy in Stockholm has asked for political asylum for himself and his family. He is now under police protection.

CPCZ's Jakes To Visit in 'Next Few Days'

LD041813 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] At the invitation of Wojciech Jaruzelski first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, Milos Jakes general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, will come to Poland in the next few days on a friendly, working visit.

Talks Held With Maltese Foreign Minister

LD042021 Warsaw PAP in English 1920 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Warsaw. Feb. 4—The minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Malta, Vincent Tabone, began an official visit here today at the invitation of Foreign Affairs Minister Marian Orzechowski.

Today, both ministers presided over Polish-Maltese plenary talks which were held in a business-like and constructive atmosphere. The sides reviewed bilateral relations, positively evaluating their hitherto development and expressing the will of their intensification and enrichment in the economic sphere, political dialogue and in cultural-scientific cooperation.

Both ministers stressed the positive development of the East-West dialogue and drew attention to the importance of the Soviet-American treaty on the elimination of certain categories of nuclear weapons for the process of disarmament, strengthening security and constructive cooperation. Both sides stressed the significance of the cooperation of all countries on the international arena, especially within the framework of the CSCE process, irrespectively of their political systems, size and geographical location. They deemed as necessary the acceleration of work at the Vienna CSCE meeting and the working out of a final document which would satisfy all participants.

Minister Tabone expressed Malta's support for the Jaruzelski Plan, stressing that its importance had grown after the Washington summit.

The participants also discussed the situation in the Mediterranean region. They expressed lively interest in a peaceful resolution of the Middle East conflict which would take account interests and envisage participation of all sides concerned on the forum of an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations.

SEJM Delegation Visits European Parliament

LD042228 Warsaw PAP in English 2148 GMT 4 Feb 88

[By PAP Correspondent Ireneusz Lukasik]

[Text] Brussels, Feb. 4—A SEJM delegation composed of SEJM Deputy Speaker Mieczyslaw Rakowski and Deputy Edward Szymanski, which had started its talks at the European Parliament on Wednesday, met today with president of the body Henry Plumb. The latter came out for intensification of contacts between Poland and the Sejm (Polish parliament) and the European Parliament.

At a joint press conference Rakowski and chairman of the socialist group at the European Parliament Rudi Arndt stated in unison that the signing of an agreement on elimination of intermediate and shorter range missiles meant significant progress in the disarmament process. They also expressed a view that that process should be accompanied by the tightening of East-West economic relations. Arndt said that the EEC should possibly promptly normalize relations with Poland and other socialist countries. He also pointed to the fact that one of factors on which payment of Polish debt depends is the creation of export possibilities for Poland.

Rakowski stated that his interlocutors, representatives of various groups at the European Parliament, expressed understanding of Poland's internal problems, both economic and political ones. They declared the willingness to develop contacts between the parliament and Poland. A delegation of the Christian-Democratic and the Socialist groups has been invited to visit Warsaw.

Radio Free Europe Reports on Illegal Group

LD021241 Warsaw PAP in English 1150 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Warsaw, Feb. 2—The army daily ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI today carries a commentary on Radio Free Europe's reports on the activities of the "Wolnocs I Pokoj" (Freedom and Peace) illegal movement. Excerpts:

"The founding body of the unlimited liability company called Freedom and Peace, that is, Radio Free Europe, is trying to make an impression that it is keeping abreast of the times.

"A sensational story was aired about the success of the WIP [Wolnocs I Pokoj], that is, the possibility of conscripts doing alternative civilian service. This is a sensational story but only for those who are completely uninformed about the substance of the case because the possibility (and not free choice) of doing alternative civilian service is envisaged by the law on the common duty to defend People's Poland of November 21, 1967.

"Another of WIP's hot news and wish is that autonomous commissions formed outside the army qualify men for military service or alternative civilian service using independent criteria. Reality in Poland in 1988 is as follows: Qualifying commissions are set up by bodies of the state administration which base on legal regulations. If anybody speaking about 'independent criteria' were to have something else in mind, this should mean that he neglects the law and is prone to break its rules.

"These examples from only one radio program indicate that both the company (WIP) and its founding body (Radio Free Europe) work according to old ways. Representatives of WIP babble endlessly while Radio Free Europe immediately airs the chatter.

"The reckless arguments of the 'experts' go to show that the activisits of the movement have run themselves into a blind alley. 'The founding body' demands that they bite at the Polish Army and, in general the social order in Poland. This is not, however, easy because one must make comparisons, for example with the West. And there, unfortunately, there are well-manned and armed armies."

Leaders' Public Appearances 27 Jan-2 Feb

AU051103 [Editorial Report] Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish monitored from 28 January to 3 February reports the following appearances of Polish leaders (date and page number given in parentheses):

The following leaders took part in the 29 January plenum of the Katowice Voivodship PZPR Committee: Politburo members Alfred Miodowicz and Zygmunt Muranski, and Politburo candidate member Manfred Gorywoda. (30-31 Jan, p 5)

Kazimierz Barcikowski, Politburo member and State Council deputy chairman, attended the 27 January plenum of the Tarnobrzeg Voivodship PZPR Committee. (28 Jan, p 6) On 28 January, he received at the Belvedere Palace Mahmoud Hassan Farghal, new Egyptian ambassador; and Artur Gonzalez Sanchez, Mexican ambassador; both of whom presented their credentials. (29 Jan, p 2)

Jozef Czyrek, Politburo member, attended the 29 January plenum of the Ostroleka Voivodship PZPR Committee. (30-31 Jan, p 6)

Alfred Miodowicz, Politburo member and OPZZ chairman, led the 28 January session of the OPZZ Executive Committee on the subject of prices and incomes policy. (29 Jan, p 2)

Mieczyslaw F. Rakowski, Politburo member, attended the 30 January plenum of the Skierniewice Voivodship PZPR Committee. (1 Feb, p 2)

On 27 January, Central Committee secretary Andrzej Wasilewski received members of the Polish Union of Applied Artists. (28 Jan, p 2)

Reagan's State of Union Address Viewed

AU041700 Bucharest LUMEA in Romanian No 5 28 Jan 88 p 27

[Stelian Turlea article on President Reagan's "State of the Union Address" to Congress on 25 January]

[Text] At the beginning of the week, President Ronald Reagan made his last State of the Union Address, proposing—as it was expected—the agenda for a period that exceeds his mandate.

The last year of the current administration has entered its finish line this week, with the resumption of activity on the Capitol Hill and with the President's State of the Union Address. After the 8 November presidential elections, another political figure, with other ideas, and, one cannot exclude the possibility, belonging to another political party will be in the White House. In similar circumstances, one almost always concentrates on the electoral process, and the activity of the current administration has been routine; any major projects as well as discussions on issues which might lead to controversy—and therefore might harm the party whose member is the President himself—were avoided. Up to a certain point, everything will continue this way this year, but, to all appearances, there will be some differences, on one hand caused by the nonfulfillment of initial promises, and on the other hand by the existence of some major issues, which it is impossible not do discuss.

Some aspects are certain, regardless of events that will drop up this year. First, the consensus needed for solving some of the difficult issues will not exist or it will be very reduced in 1988. The tension between the White House and Congress started to grow 2 years ago, but, when the date of elections comes closer, the activities will be virtually paralized: Congress, as a whole, will avoid discussions and voting projects, which presumably could displease the voters (and, as a result of this, would endanger their reelection), and the White House will stop advancing new proposals. This does not mean that the activity on Capitol Hill will halt in the first part of the year. Nevertheless, in the second part of the year, all the options and decisions of the year will have a definitely partisan tint, leading to obstacles in the way of the smooth flow of activities. For example: Probably in February the House of Representatives will vote the bill on the foreign trade which is opposed by the administration and the President will use his veto rights. Congress does not seem ready to answer positively to the presidential request to continue to provide aid to the "contra" rebel forces. Presumably, under the pressure of the public opinion, Congress will say "no" to the military aid and "yes" to humanitarian aid. The same Congress will vote new sanctions against South Africa, in spite of the fact that the President has different views on this issue. The Democrats raised up the question of increasing minimum salaries; in the year of the elections the Republicans will not oppose it, although the While House will.

The forseeable agenda for the beginning of the year, includes clarifications in three areas which the White House will present as three achievements, as a substantial impetus to the activity compared to similar situations in the last year of an administration. First of all, it is almost certain that the Senate will confirm Anthony Kennedy as judge of the Supreme Court (he is not as pronounced a conservative as those previously considered for this office). Second, the trade agreement with Canada signed on 2 January—considered by observers and even by some members of the administration as one of the first five achievements of the current administration—will be ratified. Third, the agreement on eliminating intermediate and shorter-range missiles, signed last December in Washington, which considered as an impetus for the negotiations on eliminating other types of nuclear weapons, will be ratified. All these factors will help the Republicans to stay in the fore in the election campaign.

Beyond these aspects "it is hard to establish a realistic agenda" ("U.S. News & World Report"). The most difficult issue will certainly be the budget. The budget deficit continues to be huge (Ronald Reagan promised in 1980 to eliminate it altogether!) and all methods that have been tried could hardly put a stop to it. Will an increase in taxes, as required by the opposition but not by the White House, be accepted? These taxes would displease the electorate in an election year. The monetary situation is a great concern but it is difficult to say how the administration could interfere. During the past few years attention has been drawn to education which has been below the accepted level in many schools; the problem has not been solved yet. The administration pledged to itself to launch the first permanent space station; various accidents delayed this project and only this year there might be a return of the space "shuttle". In 1980 the current President proposed the idea of a free trade zone throughout North America; an agreement with Canada has been concluded; will negotiations with Mexico also begin? Such problems, the majority of which will still be topical after the end of the current administration's mandate, can be of great concern now, in the last year of the mandate, especially with the eventual success of the Republican Party in mind. In a certain way, all these issues, whether they are thoroughly discussed or just superficially mentioned, are part of what the Americans usually call "farewell messages," with which—as it is natural in a way—every 8-year administration would like to conclude its mandate. What would be the messages of the current administration?

The first of several retrospective and prospective considerations was offered this week by the State of the Union message delivered by the President to a joint session of Congress. As expected, the President's opinions are optimistic, on the one hand, and somewhat conciliatory, on the other. The President tackled practically all dossiers that could make up the agenda of the this administration's last year as well as of years to come. President Ronald Reagan dwelled on the need for a radically new approach to the problem of the budget and the budgetary

deficit, so that the latter can be truly reduced, and the need for an end to disputes with Congress. He recalled some of his older proposals on changing the entire procedure of the "budgetary marathon." The President announced a program on space technological development, which can lead to the construction of permanent stations on the Moon and to missions to Mars in the next century. "Access to the outer space is so vital," he said, "that it should not be limited to a single system"—an obvious reference to the catastrophe of the Challenger "shuttle." The chief executive emphasized the need for free international trade; with the belief that "protectionism is destructive," the President said that he is against any kind of "trade wars that would close doors, raise major barriers, and destroy millions of jobs." He thus admits that the protectionist measures advocated, for whatever reasons, by certain members of the legislative forum would have undesirable and even ill-fated effects not only on the overall international atmosphere, but also—and primarily—on the U.S. economy at a time when, despite the administration's optimism, there are signs that the U.S. economy could be faced this year with certain convulsions and when certain economists believe that one cannot rule out the appearance of recession signals.

In another order of ideas, the U.S. President reiterated his opinions on the peace process in Central America and said that this week he will ask Congress for further military aid to the "contras". However, the White House's arguments seem to enjoy less support than at any other time in the past. The Democratic leadership in Congress believe that such a request runs counter to the current "peace opportunity" in Central America. Senator Robert Byrd, the majority leader in the Senate, even said that "the United States has reached the end of the Reagan era," hence, one cannot expect endorsement of such a policy as that promoted toward Central America. This opinion seems to be shared by wider circles. THE NEW YORK TIMES published the result of a poll that showed that 58 percent of the Americans are against giving aid to the anti-Sandinista rebels.

In the sphere of nuclear weapons, President Ronald Reagan qualified as "historic" the treaty signed last month on eliminating a category of nuclear weapons and asked the Senate to ratify it (although there are certain Republics who oppose this treaty, there will probably be no obstacles to its ratification, in view of the fact that all major presidential candidates—including Senator Bob Dole, the leader of the Senate minority—support it). The chief executive stated that the administration will not limit itself to what it has already achieved. We plan, he said, to reach an even more ambitious agreement, which should halve the number of long-range or strategic missiles possessed by the Soviet Union and the United States. However, a number of opinions expressed by the President indicate that difficult negotiations are underway. In the same order of ideas, the President reiterated his clear support for the Strategic Defense Initiative, which he considers as the only sure deterrent, and requested greater funds for this project, also called "Star Wars."

Generally speaking, these were the issues tackled in the President's address. Observers noted from the very beginning that the main feature of his address was a certain conciliatory tone toward Congress, something which could bring the President more from Congress than he could have hoped for in an election year. Congress cannot oppose certain long-term initiatives. This is partly what President Reagan tried to offer in this first "farewell message."

Anniversary of Treaty With USSR Marked

AU031006 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0943 GMT 3 Feb 88

["Dynamic Development of Romanian-Soviet Friendly and Cooperative Ties"—AGERPRES headline]]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 3/2/1988—On February 4 it is 40 years since the signing of the first treaty of friendship, collaboration and mutual assistance between Romania and the Soviet Union, a highly significant document which marked a new stage in the Romanian-Soviet relations with long-lasting traditions. That document and the new treaty signed on July 7 1970 outlined the framework and defined the aims of multilateral collaboration between the two countries and peoples. Underlain by the principles sanctioned in the treaty—fully equal rights, respect for national independence and sovereignty, non-interference in internal affairs, comradely mutual assistance and reciprocal advantage—the Romanian-Soviet links have seen a growing course. As a matter of fact, the steady development of friendship and manysided collaboration with the Soviet Union is a consistent orientation of the Romanian foreign policy.

The frequent Romanian-Soviet summit meeting and talks have made a major, decisive contribution to the expansion of links between the RCP and the CPSU, between Romania and the USSR. In this respect, the Bucharest and Moscow meetings and talks between RCP general secretary, Romania's President Nicolae Ceausescu and the CC of the CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, the understandings reached on the occasion have been moments of reference in the chronicle of Romanian-Soviet relations, dynamizing them. [sentence as received]

During President Nicolae Ceausescu's visit to Moscow in 1986, long-term programme for the development of economic, technical and scientific collaboration until the year 2000 was signed, which stimulates bilateral ties at present and in future. Through its provisions and goals the collaboration between the two countries expands and diversifies in accordance with their economic potential.

Last year's meeting in Bucharest occasioned by the Soviet leader's visit to Romania was a telling expression of the durability of links between Romania and the Soviet Union, of the wish to give them new dimensions.

The two party leaders' will was reiterated on that occasion, too, expand and deepen production specialization and cooperation in production in spheres of mutual interest. [sentence as received]

Economic collaboration—a basic factor of the two countries' multilateral advance—holds a major role in the Romanian-Soviet cooperation as a whole. Over the period that has passes since the singing of the first treaty, the USSR has ranked first in Romania's economic relations, and its share has sensibly grown in the last few years. Over 1986-1987 the volume of bilateral commercial exchanges enlarged 1.5-fold, with the main share held by products of the machine-building industry. Production specialization and cooperation in production have developed especially in machine building, metallurgy, chemistry and petrochemistry, and so has technical and scientific collaboration for a large-scale application into the economy of the latest achievements in science and technology. Collaboration also developed in culture, education, mass media, T.U. and among youth, women and various public organizations.

The Romanian-Soviet collaboration within CMEA has also grown for the implementation of the programmes agreed upon to solve, through concerted efforts, the major problems of each member country's socioeconomic progress.

Romania and the Soviet Union also cooperate actively in the international arena, taking consistent action, alongside the other socialist countries, the progressive and democratic forces everywhere for the halting of the arms race and a passage to effective disarmament measures, nuclear disarmament first and foremost, for the consolidation of peace. Romania welcomed the Soviet-American accord on the liquidation of medium and shorter-range missiles, considering that historic document to be a first step forward the complete elimination of all nuclear weapons.

Showing great satisfaction for the durability of relations of friendship and multilateral collaboration between the two socialist neighbour and friendly countries, the Romanian people reasserts its belief that they will develop still more, in the interests of both countries and peoples, of progress in socialist construction, of the general cause of socialism and peace.

Festive Meeting

AU021755 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1701 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 2/02/1988—Tuesday, a festive meeting was held at the machine-tools and Aggregates Enterprise in Bucharest on the 40th anniversary of the signing of the first treaty of friendship, collaboration and mutual assistance between Romania and the Soviet Union.

The attendance included party and state activists, representatives of the Romanian-Soviet friendship association and of the Romanian Institute for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, many working people.

Present were also members of the Embassy of the Soviet Union in Bucharest, as well as the delegation of the Soviet-Romanian Friendship Association now on a visit to Romania.

Constantin Dinica, manager of the enterprise, and A.I. Lazarov, Soviet deputy minister of heavy and transport engineering, vice-chairman of the Soviet-Romanian Friendship Association, spoke about the significance of the event celebrated. The speeches emphasized the importance of the first treaty in the continuous development of the ties of friendship and multilateral collaboration between the RCP and the CPSU, between Romania and the USSR, between the two countries' peoples. The speakers also underscored the decisive role of the meetings and talks between Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CC of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, in expanding the Romanian-Soviet relations in the mutual interest, in the interest of the cause of socialism and peace.

Leaders Greet Soviets

AU032002 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1941 GMT 3 Feb 88

["Telegram"—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 3/02/1988—
To Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev,
General Secretary of the Central Committee
of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union,

to Comrade Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko,
Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

to Comrade Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov,
Chairman of the Council of Ministers
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Moscow

Dear Comrades,

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party, of the State Council and of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania, of the Romanian people and on our own behalf, we take great pleasure in addressing you, the Central Committe of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the Council of Ministers of the USSR, as well as to the Soviet peoples

a warm friendly salute and the most cordial congratulations on the 40th anniversary of the signing of the First Treaty of Friendship, Collaboration and Mutual Assistance between Romania and the Soviet Union.

During the four decades since the signing of the treaty, the Romanian-Soviet relations, established on the principles of scientific socialism, of full equality of rights, of the respect for national independence and sovereignty, of non-interference in internal affairs and of mutual advantage, have powerfully developed in all domains.

The New Treaty of Friendship, Collaboration and Mutual Assistance signed in July 1970 marked a higher stage in the development of the friendly and cooperative relations between our parties, countries and peoples, providing the favourable framework for political, economic, scientific and cultural cooperation, for bilateral cooperation on multiple planes, as well as on international plane between Romania and the Soviet Union.

We express our firm belief that the Romanian-Soviet relations, with long-standing traditions, will develop continuously on multiple planes, in keeping with the summit understandings and talks, in the spirit of the Treaty of Friendship, Collaboration and Mutual Assistance, in the interest and for the benefit of the Romanian people and of the Soviet peoples, in the interest of the cause of socialism, peace and progress worldwide.

On this important anniversary in the history of the Romanian-Soviet relations we wish you, the Communists and all working people in the friendly neighbour country ever greater successes in carrying into effect the resolutions of the Twenty-Seventh CPSU Congress, in building the developed socialist society and communism in the Soviet Union, in the struggle for peace, disarmament, collaboration and progress in the world.

Nicolae Ceausescu,
general secretary of the Romanian Communist party,
president of the Socialist Republic of Romania

Constantin Dascalescu,
prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

Towns Mark Anniversary

AU031955 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1815 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 3/02/1988—Wednesday, festive meetings were held in the towns of Pitesti, Slatina, Slobozia and the Ilfov agricultural sector on the 40th anniversary of the signing of the First Treaty of Friendship, Collaboration and Mutual Assistance Between Romania and the Soviet Union.

The attendance included representatives of the local party and state bodies, of the mass and public organizations, many working people.

Also attending were the delegation of the Romanian-Soviet Friendship association now on a visit to Romania and members of the embassy of the Soviet Union in Bucharest.

Local decision-makers spoke about the significance of the event celebrated. The head of the delegation of the Romanian-Soviet Friendship Association, members of the embassy of the USSR in Bucharest also took the floor.

The speakers referred to the traditional ties of friendship between the Romanian and Soviet peoples, and underscored the importance of the treaty in the development of the collaboration between the Romanian Communist Party and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, between Romania and the USSR. Emphasis was also placed on the special significance of the meetings and talks between Comrades Nicolae Ceausescu and Mikhail Gorbachev in the expansion of the collaboration and cooperation between the two parties, countries and peoples, for the mutual benefit, in the interest of the cause of peace, socialism and understanding worldwide.

Officials Attend Meeting

AU042008 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1830 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 4/02/1988—On February 4 a festive meeting was arranged in Bucharest on the 40th anniversary of the signing of the First Treaty of Friendship, Collaboration and Mutual Assistance between Romania and the Soviet Union.

Taking their seats in the presidium of the meeting were Gheorghe Radulescu, member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, vice-chairman of the State Council, Ion Coman, member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP, Ion Stoian, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP, Cornel Pacoste, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, deputy prime minister, Ion Teoreanu, minister of education and instruction, deputy heads of section at the CC of the RCP, executives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of National Defence, representatives of the Bucharest Municipality RCP Committee, of the Romanian Institute for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and of the Romanian-Soviet Friendship Association.

Also present in the Presidium were F.I.Lazarev, deputy minister of heavy and transport engineering of the USSR, vice-chair-man of the Central Board of the Soviet-Romanian Friendship Association, head of the delegation of the association now on a visit to Romania, and Y.M.Tyazhelmpkov, ambassador of the USSR to Bucharest.

Ion Teoreanu, minister of education and instruction, took the floor and referred to the significance of the event celebrated, stressing that the treaty signed on february 4, 1948 raised to a new level the ties of friendship and solidarity, based on long-standing traditions, between the peoples in the two countries, between the forward, democratic, revolutionary social forces which supported and helped each other in their common fight for national and social liberation, for the attainment of their aspirations after progress. The speaker showed that these relations are established on the principles of scientific socialism, of the full equal rights, of the respect for national independence and sovereignty, of non-interference in internal affair and of mutual advantage. The new Treaty of Friendship, Collaboration and Mutual Assistance between the two countries, signed on July 7, 1970, continued and developed the provisions of the first treaty of 1948, it created the premises for the broadening and affirmations of the Romanian-Soviet multifarious relations, for the further expansion and deepening of the political, economic, technical-scientific and cultural collaboration.

Next, the speaker underscored the decisive role of the ties of friendship and solidarity between the RCP and the CPSU in ensuring the ascending course of the Romanian-Soviet links. Stress was also laid on the particular significance of the meetings and talks between Nicolae Ceausescu and Mikhail Gorbachev, the understandings covenanted on those occasions bearing favourably on the relations between the two countries and nations as a whole and powerfully stimulating the development of cooperation in all areas.

Engaged in the grand work of building socialism and communism, Romania and the Soviet Union actively cooperate on an international plane as well solidarizing with all the democratic and progressive forces, contributing to the achievement of disarmament, of nuclear disarmament in the first place, to the struggle for the prevention of a new war, to the promotion of a detente policy, to the establishment of a climate of security, understanding and broad international cooperation in Europe and the world over, the speaker said.

Y.M. Tyazhelnikov, ambassador of the USSR to Bucharest, took the floor next who underlined the role of the First Soviet-Romanian Treaty in the strengthening of the friendship and solidarity between the Soviet peoples and the Romanian people, in the evolution of the political, economic and cultural links between the USSR and Romania. The lofty goals, the internationalist principles of this treaty are to be found, enriched, in the provisions of the new Soviet-Romanian treaty of 1979.

The official goodwill visit of the general secretary of the CC of the CPSU of May last year, the understandings reached during the talks between Mikhail Gorbachev and Nicolae Ceausescu in Bucharest and Moscow opened new prospects to expanding and deepening the political, economic, technical, scientific and cultural cooperation, to enhancing the joint actions of the two countries within the Warsaw Treaty, of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, in the international arena, the speaker said.

In conclusion the speaker stressed that the Soviet Union attached great importance to further deepening the Soviet-Romanian friendship and manysided cooperation.

A festive meeting was arranged in Constanta on the same occasion.

USSR Embassy Hosts Meeting

AU042009 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1840 GMT 4 Feb 88

["Friendly Meeting"—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 04/02/1988—On the anniversary of 40 years since the signing of the First Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance Between Romania and the Soviet Union, Ambassador Y.M. Tyazhelnikov organized a friendly meeting at the embassy of the USSR in Bucharest on Thursday, February 4.

Attending were Gheorghe Radulescu, member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, vice-president of the State Council, Ion Coman, member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP, Ion Stoian, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP, Cornel Pacoste, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, deputy prime minister, other officials.

Present were also the members of the delegation of the Soviet- Romanian Friendship Association, led by F.I. Lazarev, deputy minister of heavy transport engineering of the USSR, vice-chairman of the Central Board of the association, now visiting Romania.

The consul general of the Soviet Union in Constanta gave a reception on the same occasion.

Ceausescu at Working People's Council Meeting

AU041448 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1436 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 04/02/1988—A plenary meeting of the National Council of Working People in Industry, Construction, Transport, Goods Circulation and Finance started in Bucharest on Thursday, February 4, under the chairmanship of Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP general secretary, president of Romania, chairman of the Working People's National Council.

Alongside President Nicolae Ceausescu and Mme Elena Ceausescu taking their seats in the presidium were the members of the Executive Bureau of the Working People's National Council.

The attendance included full and alternate members of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, secretaries of the Party's Central Committee, members of the CC of the RCP, of the State Council and of the Government.

The proceedings are also attended as guests by party and state activists, activists of mass and public organizations, executives of ministries, central departments and industrial enterprises.

The plenary meeting approved the following agenda:

1. Report on the provisions of the single national plan of economic and social development, of the budgets for 1988 and the measures for the fulfilment of the plan for the first quarter and the whole year.

2. Report on the activity of the working people's councils in enterprises, central departments and ministries and the measures to enhance their role in ensuring worker self-management and financial self-administration.

3. The resolution-appeal of the Working People's National Council.

On the first item on the agenda the report was read by Constantin Dascalescu, member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, prime minister, first vice-chairman of the Working People's National Council. On the second item on the agenda the report was read by Emil Bobu, member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP, first vice chairman of the Working People's National Council and chairman of the Council's Executive Bureau.

Numerous participants took the floor during the debates in plenum and examined the way in which the collective management bodies in ministries, central departments and enterprises, all the working people in industry, construction, transport, goods circulation and finance had worked to fulfil plan indices for the first quarter and the whole year.

The speakers referred to the way in which advantage is taken of the broad framework of revolutionary worker democracy, to the need to further improve the style and methods of work of the collective management bodies so that they fulfill their important role in organizing and managing all economic and social activities in the best conditions.

The participants expressed full adhesion to the foreign policy of the RCP and the Romanian state pointing out the great significance of the initiatives, actions and demarches taken by the party general secretary internationally for the attainment of the ideals of liberty, independence, peace and progress of all the nations of the world.

In the afternoon, the proceedings were held in councils per branches, by groups of central departments and fields of activity.

The plenary meeting continues.

BORBA Reports on Situation in Brasov

AU031807 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 30-31 Jan 88 p 13

[Report by Milovan Jaukovic, BORBA special correspondent in Romania: "Before and After Brasov"]

[Text] Brasov, January [dateline as published]—An ordinary November Sunday in Brasov has been widely called the point "before and after Brasov," except in Romania itself, where this epithet only exists in thoughts or, at best, in whispers. In this large industrial center in the middle of Transylvania, about 160 km from Bucharest, on 15 November, local elections day, workers held big demonstrations demanding more bread and electric power. The demonstrations also turned into a form of protest against Nicolae Ceausescu's ru

The first encounter with this town in the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains gives a somewhat surprising impression to professionally curious people. Three-member fully armed police patrols are not more frequent and not more numerous than in any other Romanian city. There is no sign of the army whatsoever. This, it appears, is only an illusion, just as many other things are in Romania.

Strange Silence [subhead]

There is a strange silence in the streets that is only occasionally broken by the sound of a rare car or city bus. The buses look like some kind of missile carriers because about 10 years ago their roofs were fitted with gas cylinders, but they still run on diesel. The appearance of strangers and cameras causes sidelong glances—a strange mixture of suspicion and fear, perhaps even hostility. The people I meet either hurry somewhere with eyes to the ground or stare at the faraway peaks of the Carpathian Mountains.

A French couple with two children are unsuccessfully asking for street directions. Nobody seems to be willing to stop, some only shrug their shoulders. This is a bit strange, because the Romanians have the reputation of being helpful and being able to speak foreign languages. Even the regular crowds at the public transportation stops look somewhat over-disciplined and "cleansed." There is no murmur, laugh, or conversation. Near the railroad station, there is a line for coffee (or better put, its awful substitute) which costs five lei (just over 50 U.S. cents). Although the smallish coffee room is completely full of people, one could hear a pin drop.

The old names of the former trucks factory, the "Red Star," and the tractor and agricultural machines factory, the "Tractorul," have disappeared. By a decree on reorganization, they were amalgamated overnight under the name of Brasov Transportation Enterprise. Only the slogan "Long live the Communist Party of Romania" is still there. This is the place where the workers opposed local officials who tried to justify a cut in workers incomes by blaming the unfulfilled monthly production plan. This appears to have been the straw that broke the camel's back in a situation full of dissatisfaction caused by longlasting food shortages and drastic power and natural gas savings.

In the city center among ancient buildings that have been somehow saved from the "masterpieces" of socialist-realist architecture, there is a new, important discovery for curious visitors. The shop windows in the Avenue of the Republic, Brasov's version of Knez Mihajlo Street in Belgrade, are the most convincing proof that today Brasov is the best-supplied place in Romania. For whatever reasons, bread is no longer a rarity, one can find some meat, eggs, some vegetables, and even mineral water and bottled wine, which are otherwise sold only in special shops for foreigners.

This is the street in which the workers who walked out of the factory yard were joined by numerous citizens. The description from the witnesses with whom this reporter spoke corresponds in the main with what the foreign press reported.

Versions and Consequences [subhead]

Judging by their statements, the epilogue of events in Brasov differed in many ways from what was stated in the official announcements. A number of workers were proclaimed troublemakers and were kicked out of their jobs. About 2,000-3,000 people were moved to other industrial centers. It is also thought that the illegal organization the Free Trade Union of Romanian Workers had its fingers in the demonstrations. Its handwritten leaflets were allegedly discovered. All typewriters are registered with the police, and an annual technical inspection of the type is compulsory.

Although all independent accounts point out that this might have been the most dangerous spontaneous outbreak of dissatisfaction in Romania since the revolt of 35,000 miners from the Jiu Valley 10 years ago, for the Romanian party leadership the protest in Brasov never existed. According to official statements, this was only an "occurrence of indiscipline, disrespect for the production technology, serious mistakes by the factory management," and nothing more. This is why the entire management was replaced and why recently in one of Brasov's culture halls about 60 people were given sentences for "hooliganism" ranging from 1 to 3 years.

However, regardless of all this, it is still unclear what really happened on that November Sunday and the extent of the unrest. What do workers in Brasov factories think about all this? When I asked in the AGERPRESS foreign press department if a meeting with the workers and the representatives of the local authority and party could be organized, it was politely explained to me that this is impossible because "at present they have more important things to do than talk to journalists."

Data Show Population Exceeds 23 Million

AU040846 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0730 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 4/2/1988—According to official statistical data released in the Bucharest press of Wednesday on December 31, 1987 Romania's population reached 23,004,000, registering a 0.5 per cent growth from 1986. More than half of Romania's citizens live in municipalities and towns.

Journalist Finds 'Second Document' on Waldheim

AU041446 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 2 Feb 88 p 2

[B. Dikic report: "Another Report by the High Ustasha District Administrator Found"]

[Text] Only some of the documents that bear witness to the wartime role of the then Wehrmacht Lieutenant Kurt Waldheim on Yugoslav soil have been found, as the military records of the German, Italian, and even Ustasha command, which were seized in 1945, have not been fully researched and analyzed. The commission of six historians led by the Swiss military expert, Hans Rudolf Kurz is, on the whole, concerned with examining and checking the material and documents already in existence in archives in the United States, the FRG and Austria, and, to a lesser extent, those in Yugoslavia and Italy. Because of the limited time available for this study, this commission of historians did not manage to gain access to the archives, let alone find materials and documents, nor to talk with witnesses who are acquainted with circumstances, events, and consequences of the activities of Kurt Waldheim between spring 1942 and May 1945 in the then occupied parts of Yugoslavia.

At this moment in time, at the center of attention is a document published in Hamburg's DER SPIEGEL, in which a report from the Ustasha Colonel Fedor Dragojlov dated 22 July 1942 is cited, which refers to a request from Lt Kurt Waldheim to send 4,224 prisoners, mainly women and children, from Kozara to concentration camps in Grubisino Polje and Zemun.

A POLITIKA journalist has discovered a second document that seems to relate to the same group of imprisoned civilians whose deportation to concentration camps in July 1942 was closely coordinated by the corresponding unit of the German General Friedrich Stahl (commander of punitive operations and the massacre and destruction in Kozara)—the unit in which Lt Waldheim with Captain Plume also took part—and the Ustasha government and the military commands.

The first document was written in Zagreb on 18 July 1942 and the second on 22 July 1942. It was cited that "4,114 prisoners had arrived from Kozara" while in the second report the number of prisoners had risen to 4,224. These two Ustasha reports show that mainly "imprisoned" women and children were involved and that 15 percent were old men.

The first of these two documents, which is being published for the first time in today's POLITIKA, shows a letter from "the high district administrator [veliki zupan] at the Ustasha ministry for internal affairs" on the completed deportation of civilians imprisoned in Kozara, in which Pavelic's Independent State of Croatia closely cooperated with the German commander of the "West Bosnian Combat Group," acting on orders from Gen Friedrich Stahl. From June to near the end of August 1942, Lt Kurt Waldheim belonged to the German command, in the unit of the "quartermaster" Capt Plume station in Banja Luka, which was responsible, among other things, for organizing the transport of deported persons. The majority of these deportees was sent to the Ustasha death camps of Jasenovac and Prijedor and to German camps in Zemun, and from there to camps in Germany and Norway.

[Boxed within the body of this item POLITIKA carries a photocopy of the first of the two letters, with the caption as follows]

This is the Ustasha document from "the Secretariat of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Independent State of Croatia," in which "the high district administrator at the Ministry of Internal Affairs" informs the "headquarters [glavni stozer] of the Ustasha forces [vojnica] in Zagreb" on 18 July 1942, that "4,114 prisoners have arrived here from Kozara, including mainly women and children, and 15 percent being old men." Only 4 days later, on 22 July 1942, the Ustasha Colonel Dragojlov reported that Lt Kurt Waldheim had asked for virtually the same number of prisoners to be deported from Kozara to an assembly camp in Grubisino Polje and a concentration camp in Zemun.

Archivist Denies Holding 'Waldheim Dossier'

LD041122 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1018 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Belgrade, February 4 (TANJUG)—The "Waldheim dossier" in the Belgrade-based archive of Yugoslavia does not contain his telegram written in 1942 that was published on Monday in the West German weekly DER SPIEGEL, Assistant Director of the Archive, Dr Bogdan Lekic, told the Yugoslav daily BORBA today.

The dossier on Kurt Waldheim is kept in the fund of the state commission for determining war crimes committed by the occupying forces and those who helped them. Lekic specified that the members of the international commission investigating the Austrian president's responsibility had access to these documents.

Dusan Plenca, 63, who claims to have discovered a telegram dated July 22, 1942, with Waldheim's order for the deportation of 4,224 prisoners from the Kozara mountain in Bosnia to concentration camps, is described by Dr. Lekic as a serious historian who would not stoop to using forgeries. Anyone who might possibly dispute the authenticity of the telegram is also entitled to submit it to scientific analysis, Dr. Lekic said.

The Yugoslav historian Dusan Plenca repeated last night that he is in possession of a photocopy of a document proving Waldheim's activities in 1942 on the Kozara mountain in the headquarters of Gen. Stahl. Plenca said

he had made the photocopy two years ago in the archive of Yugoslavia and promised that he would find the original in a few days' time and present it to the public.

Mikulic Addresses SFRY Assembly

AU022021 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Here is a report on the session of the Federal Chamber held in the SFRY Assembly. In a 1-hour speech, FEC President Branko Mikulic pointed out the reasons for increased administration and state interference in the economy, because of which the federal government is not successful enough. The FEC does not contain any members who would lead society in a wrong direction, nor have any other federal organs in any way hampered FEC's efforts to achieve better results. This is the essence of an extensive reply by Branko Mikulic to a delegate's question by Zdravko Zabukovec asked at the end of last year. Olivija Rusovac reports:

Let us recall that delegate Zdravko Zabukovec proceeded from the assessment that the FEC had not achieved any essential results and that its measures lead to peculiar administrative centralism with much arbitrariness and experimentation. Dissatisfaction drives people to strikes or apathy. Such situations cause trouble and the feeling that an authoritative hand and administration from the center are needed, and we cannot get rid of the feeling that a desire for a revival of the outdated forms of government, practically and theoretically condemned to failure, is intentionally cultivated.

According to Branko Mikulic, this question contains serious political assessments of the FEC's general orientation. This was the reason that the reply was coordinated in the FEC, which means that President Mikulic did not speak only on his own behalf.

Mikulic began by recalling the relative successes achieved in 1986, refusing to agree with the criticism of the measures designed to slow down inflation at that time. The pace of inflation reduction was determined at that time in accordance with the Anti-Inflation Program that was part of the Long-Term Stabilization Program. I will not talk about the reasons why neither of these programs was implemented, but I wish to say that spontaneity is not a good traveling companion for anybody, especially not (?for our administrative economy), Mikulic added.

Speaking about 1987, the February FEC measures were not implemented because of the general [words indistinct], and since the adoption of the intervention measures in October, a campaign has been conducted both against the measures and against the program, but not in favor of implementing and amending them as one goes along.

Referring to other more important questions raised by Zdravko Zabukovec in connection with administrative decisionmaking, Branko Mikulic pointed out that (?because of) ideological resistance and vacillation, and material restrictions, the road to a real economy was not opened, and therefore much time was lost and the crisis intensified.

In the past 20 months, the FEC has dealt with these questions and proposed several bills. Therefore, it cannot accept malicious assessments that, for instance, the provisions of the Gross Revenue Law made the economy a guinea pig on which the federal administration practices its economics lessons. Remarks that price disequilibria are being eliminated in an administrative way through the transfer of income from some people to others are also curious. It is the task of the Stabilization Program to correct such injustices, and one should therefore ask why it was not done earlier, Mikulic said. He added:

[Begin Mikulic recording] An inappropriate and disjointed economic system and economic policy exerted a limiting influence on the affirmation of commodity production, market economy, and economic independence of the factors in the economy. The measures that the FEC initiated and undertook did not solve this problem because of the reasons that I just mentioned. These are the main reasons for the strengthening of administrative regulations or of the state interventionism in the economy and the market, including the latest intervention measures. [end recording]

Branko Mikulic also mentioned the large material obligations that were transfered to the federation, because of which the federation itself is turning into a large debtor, while the consequences of the erroneous decisions by the republics and provinces are being transferred to society at large.

[Begin Mikulic recording] (?Furthermore), the federation, in giving up a portion of the turnover tax, in making grants from the budget, and in other ways, participated in the financing of international sports events held in Yugoslavia, for instance (the Mediterranean Games), the 14th Winter Olympic Games, the International Student Games, the Planica ski-jumping competition, and others. All the countries hosting such events do this, and it is understandable that we have also done it.

However, in the acts that appropriated these funds, we failed to determine the obligation of the users of these funds to submit a report on the income received and expenditures made, and to impose an obligation on federal organs to carry out special checks on the implementation of the law. No such checks were therefore carried out. Had we done it, we would have avoided subsequent reproaches, dissatisfaction, and polemics with various undertones.

That is to say, that there is an obvious need to provide insight into the receipts and expenditures of funds that the social community allocates for the financing of great sports events, and this should be ensured in the future. [end recording]

Recalling that no agreement on the economic resolution for this year was achieved in time, which had negative repercussions worldwide, Mikulic said:

[Begin Mikulic recording] It is obvious that this was a result, on the one hand, of increased differences in the interests of the federal units, of the material difficulties that are experienced more or less by all the republics and provinces, of the shortcomings in the economic system and economic policy as stated above, and of the transfer of increasing material obligations to the federation. All this caused the federal units to shrink from each other and to fear that they will be cheated, that others will get more or have gotten more, and so forth.

On the other hand, accord-seeking and decisionmaking in the federal organs, and especially in the SFRY Assembly, are under the strong influence of the political factors in the republics and provinces, and this influence increases if the federal organs proposals are poorly worked out professionally and poorly supported by estimates, which undisputably is often the case.

Under such conditions, the delegate system cannot function, and one resorts to methods of setting conditions and, objectively speaking, exploiting one's connections. Without appropriate social and political conditions, administrative centralism and political absolutism therefore cannot be restored. Therefore, one should not look for the causes of such tendencies in a possible inclination of this kind by one organ or another, but primarily in increasing social contradictions and conflicts. [end recording]

Having assessed that our situation is in many respects more complicated than at the beginning of the seventies, Mikulic added:

[Begin Mikulic recording] It is a paradox that in Yugoslavia we have, for instance, eight taxation systems, and the republics and provinces make arrangements to coordinate their taxation policy. The policy of earning and distributing income, the functioning of the system of national banks, and others are similar cases.

Such tendencies and practice have taken sway in our country at a time when strong integration processes are occurring in the world, and science and new technologies are developing quickly; at a time when Western Europe creates a unified market and a corresponding economic system and institutional forms for coordination of the state policy of the EC members, and of the EFTA countries tomorrow. In a specific way, similar processes are also opening in the CEMA countries. It is interesting that these countries and peoples see in these processes a chance for prosperity for their nations, but we are under strong pressure from a reverse trend.

We have gotten into a situation where it is more and more frequently said that the federalization even of the LCY is a reality that should be accepted as such.

It is obvious that we have reached a point at which we must ask: where does this absence of consciousness in favor of a positive Yugoslav synthesis, implied by socialist self-management and the character of the relations in the community of the Yugoslav peoples and nationalities, come from, and what future does all this lead us to? [end recording]

Branko Mikulic also spoke about the problems of the rule of the law and the Constitution, saying that the legal system cannot function normally because of political pressure. However, when the FEC points out the erosion of the legal system and the violations of regulations, it is labelled as conducting a police policy and leading the country to the Eastern bloc.

[Begin Mikulic recording] It is certain that something of this kind could not happen, and especially could not happen for such a long time, without being politically directed by somebody, by somebody standing behind it. We have often asked: What is lurking behind this? Have regional egoism and selfish particularist interests befuddled the minds of those who represent and advocate them? Is this the way in which one wants to defend the positions attained in the economic system and in the market, or is it a question of strivings for an economic and political hegemony in Yugoslavia? Or do some people, because they do not accept socialism and self-management and the policy of nonalignment, want to cause social and political disturbances aimed at a change in the social system and nature of the Yugoslav federation? Or is it perhaps a question of something much more peripheral and more easily solvable, such as, for instance, the FEC resignation?

It would be politically naive to ask that one should frankly say what is the matter now. Time will tell. [end recording]

Mikulic concluded his 1-hour speech by reporting that a commission for building the economic system had been set up, and he stressed that the FEC has no members leading society in a wrong direction, and that no other organs in the federation hampered the FEC efforts to achieve better results. What the FEC insists on is the building of a unified economic system and respect for economic laws, FEC President Branko Mikulic said in conclusion.

Further Report
AU032135 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] The Federal Chamber is in session in the SFRY Assembly, and it may be said that the session passed under the sign of delegate questions and answers to them. Particular attention was caused by the answer of FEC President Branko Mikulic to a question that delegate Zdravko Zabukovec asked at the last session of the Chamber last year. The essence of the question was what prevents the FEC from acting efficiently against the crisis, and the delegate requested that the premier should name persons and institutions.

Colleague Djordje Vlajic was in the SFRY Assembly today. Have all the proper answers been presented?

[Vlajic] Delegate Zdravko Zabukovec, we may say, in the end retained his right to ask a supplementary delegate question and he explained that he would like to study at his leisure what the FEC president said today.

Believing that Zdravko Zabukovec's delegate question, especially his assessments of the gravity of the economic and political situation in our country, exceed the framework of a delegate question, the FEC president in a speech that lasted more than 1 hour endeavored to explain comprehensively the measures and intentions of the federal government in the 1 and 1/2 years' of its term. Branko Mikulic, in addition, pointed out the key causes of the economic situation.

Here are some highlights: The 1986 June and July measures to a certain extent checked the negative trends in the economy, but had the measures been comprehensively applied, the results would have been even better. The year of 1987 was marked by a growth of general and public spending disregarding the adopted policy. Except for economic relations with foreign countries and an increase in employment, the economic results last year were negative.

The extent of the lack of financial discipline was manifested last year, and Agrokomerc was the best illustration. This field is so neglected, Branko Mikulic stressed, that no significant shift is possible without a thorough reform of the financial system. All this indicates that the FEC cannot be solely responsible for the implementation of economic policy, Branko Mikulic stressed. He pointed out some major problems that deserve special attention.

Above all, this is administration. It is excessive, Mikulic believes, at all levels from the federation down to the communes. It stifles self-managing and business independence of economic organizations. A number of measures and laws that were to introduce the working of economic rules in domestic economy life were unable to yield results because of the incomprehensive economic system and an economic policy in which everything is calculated from the standpoint of national economies.

Many commitments were transferred to the federation in the past period, Branko Mikulic believes. This objectively leads to the formation of a new federal cake, or rather the strengthening of statism in the federation. The practice of exerting pressure and setting conditions and the like has long been present in our country, and it reached its climax by the end of last year when the economic resolution for this year was being passed.

This is certainly a consequence of the increase of the material differences among the federal units, the difficulties that beset more or less all the republics and provinces, and numerous shortcomings in the economic system, Branko Mikulic pointed out.

Speaking about the responsibility of the FEC and its position, Branko Mikulic stressed that 28 days after the election of the new government the question of whether the government would resign was posed at a press conference. From then up to this day, this question has been repeated in the press, as well as in delegate assemblies with increasing intensity, Branko Mikulic stressed.

[Begin Mikulic recording] It is imputed to the FEC that it leads Yugoslavia to the Eastern bloc through the back door in a planned and premeditated manner, that it is opening up not just the back door, but the main front entrance to unitarianism, that it is on the side of the less capable part of the economy, that it displays a centralist devotion, that the government policy has been chiefly of a police kind, and so forth. All this is not worth commenting upon.

This is launched in portions of our press and it is sometimes also heard in speeches by some people at sessions of delegate political bodies. It is certain that something of this kind could not happen, and especially could not happen for such a long time, without being politically directed by somebody, by somebody standing behind it. We have often asked: What is lurking behind this? Have regional egoism and selfish particularist interests befuddled the minds of those who represent and advocate them? Is this the way in which one wants to defend the positions attained in the economic system and in the market, or is it a question of striving for an economic and political hegemony in Yugoslavia? Or do some people, because they do not accept socialism and self-management and the policy of nonalignment, want to cause social and political disturbances aiming at a change in the social system and nature of the Yugoslav federation? Or is it perhaps a question of something much more peripheral and more easily resolvable, such as the FEC resignation?

It would be politically naive to ask these people to give a frank explanation of what is the matter now. Time will tell. [end recording]

Perhaps we should add that Delegate Zdravko Zabukovec, who took the floor after the FEC president, said that he was not satisfied with the answer to the question he had asked. He believed that his question was precise and that the reply could have been shorter and more to the point.

Pavlovic Expelled From Belgrade Party Committee
LD050132 Belgrade TANJUG in English
2325 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Belgrade, Feb 4 (TANJUG)—The City Committee of the League of Communists of Belgrade today expelled Dr Dragisa Pavlovic, former president of the collective leadership of this party organisation.

The committee of the largest party organisation in Yugoslavia, which numbers 240,000 Communists, at the same time launched an initiative to expel Pavlovic from the Central Committees of the League of Communists of Serbia (LCS) and the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY) on grounds of "unprincipled conduct and grave political mistakes."

Dr Dragisa Pavlovic was relieved of the post of president of the Presidency of the Belgrade Party Committee at the eighth session of the LCS Central Committee last September. He was then criticised of offering resistance to the ideological unity of the LCS, especially to the implementation of the party policy to normalise the situation in the Autonomous Province of Kosovo, which has been subject to disturbances by Ethnic Albanian chauvinists and separatists since 1981.

Dr Dragisa Pavlovic was today relieved of the post of member of the City Committee because of his responsibility for the publication of a short humorous story which the public has condemned as a major political and cultural scandal.

The story, published in the Belgrade daily POLITIKA last year, pours ridicule on Professor Dr Pavle Savic, a well-known physicist and academician, and on Gojko Nikolis, a writer, academician and Spanish war veteran.

In the autumn of 1986, Savic and Nikolis found themselves on the opposing sides in a polemic on a memorandum issued by the Serbian Academy of Arts and Sciences (SANU), which was officially appraised as an inadmissible and one-sided chauvinist pamphlet aimed at the distintegration of Yugoslavia.

The document, written by a number of SANU members, accuses the founders of new Yugoslavia, Josip Broz Tito and Edvard Kardelj, of "anti-Serb policy."

The former president of the Presidency of the Belgrade City Committee was accused of having taken advantage of his personal authority to ensure the publication of this story which casts a slur on the political and moral integrity of top scientific personalities. In this, Pavlovic abused data of the state security service.

The Belgrade City Committee concluded, however, that the practice of compiling private files and using them in political and ideological struggle is an inadmissible method which endangers the democratic practice of the League of Communists and society in general.

Stupar Resignation Accepted
AU042152 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian
2100 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] The City Committee of the Belgrade LC organization discussed today the responsibility of its former president, Dragisa Pavlovic, in connection with the writing and publication of the Vojko and Savle humorous story. After a 10-hour discussion, it was concluded that Dragisa Pavlovic bears full responsibility for the entire case.

The members of the City Committee of the Belgrade LC organization unanimously decided that former President Dragisa Pavlovic should be dismissed from the membership of the City Committee, and that procedure should be initiated to dismiss him from the membership of the LCY Central Committee and to expel him from the LCY. They also unanimously accepted Dusan Stupar's resignation from the membership of the City Committee, and they requested that his basic organization decide on the ideopolitical measures to be taken.

According to the City Committee position, Dragisa Pavlovic, former president of the Belgrade party organization, was the creator of the entire case connected with the Vojko and Savle humorous story. In her explanation, Slobodanka Gruden, member of a working group, said that the publication of the humorous story last year caused a great political and cultural scandal. Dragisa Pavlovic is charged with misusing his office, and with abandoning the LC policy and starting a private war which resembles anything but an ideological struggle, Slobodanka Gruden said.

In his speech which lasted more than 1 hour, Dragisa Pavlovic attempted to reject all the accusations, stating that in all these things he was marked as a suspicious witness and a scapegoat in advance. Asked by Aleksandar Bakocevic to say who wrote the disputed humorous story, Pavlovic replied that he did not know.

The City Committee Presidency proposed measures against Dusan Stupar, head of the State Security Service in Belgrade, on the basis of the fact that Dragisa Pavlovic received from Stupar confidential information which was used in writing the disputed story.

In his concluding speech, Rados Smiljkovic, president of the City Committee, said that it is our obligation to preserve and to advance the prestige of the LC. The

reasons that have led to the discussion today reach deeper than a discussion about a person. Occurrences of Stalinist conduct and elitist consciousness were evident. According to Smiljkovic, bureaucratic forces are present in the LC, too.

Smiljkovic stressed that the trust in the party returned after the eighth session of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia, for the session showed that the forces of democracy are stronger than bureaucratic violence.

'Organizer of Serbs' Expelled from LC in Kosovo

AU031940 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1825 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Pristina, 3 Feb (TANJUG)—At the proposal of a comrades council this evening, the party organization of the Working Community of the Joint Services of the Kosovo Coal Work Organization expelled Bosko Budimirovic from the LC. In the assessment of the Communal Committee of the LC of Pristina, Budimirovic was named as one of the organizers of gatherings by Serbs and Montenegrins in Kosovo.

Almost all the members of this basic organization accepted the assessment of the Communal Committee, and this seemed to have been a sufficient argument for handing down the said ideopolitical sanction against Budimirovic. The comrades' council was supposed to establish whether Budimirovic was an organizer of the protest meeting of workers at the Obilic Thermoelectric Powerplant a few months ago, after the Paracin Barracks crime, but the council has not yet established it.

Bosko Budimirovic did not accept the assessment of the Communal Committee of the LC of Pristina and he said he will emigrate from Kosovo.

Trial of Agrokomerc Director 'Next Month'

AU041238 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 2 Feb 88 p 12

[D. P. and R. N. report: "'Agrokomerc Makers' on the Same Bench"]

[Text] Bihac, 1 Feb—The trial of Fikret Abdic and his accomplices who are responsible for the downfall of Agrokomerc will start at the beginning of next month. According to the law, the Higher Public Prosecutor's Office should file charges (or several lots of charges) by the end of February.

Through our conversation with Radojka Knezevic, president of a higher court, we learned that the charges themselves will determine whether the proceedings will be instituted against all those involved in the affair at the same time, or whether they will be tried separately, and whether an unlimited number of reporters will be allowed to report from the main hearing, in which there is great interest.

Unofficially we have learned that there will be a single trial of "Agrokomerc makers" [mejkeri] who will be charged under Article 114 of the SFRY Penal Code (counterrevolutionary threatening of the social organization of the SFRY). To date, as far as we know, Fikret Abdic, Hakija Pozderac, and Dr Ibrahim Mujic, Abdic's former deputy, have been investigated regarding this criminal act.

Plan To Abolish Nuclear Power Plant Construction

LD041510 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1143 GMT 4 Feb 88

[Text] Belgrade, 4 Feb (TANJUG)—The SFRY Assembly's Chamber of the Republics and Provinces today gave its support to an initiative of the Slovene Assembly to begin procedures to change the current medium- and long-term plans of the country's development up to year 2000 in order to abolish provisions that envisage the construction of nuclear power plants in that period.

At the same time, the Chamber asked the FEC immediately to embark on the work to change the relevant planning documents.